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Community News

14th – 28th June 2024 | Volume 41 – Issue 12

Local Stories, Local Events, Local People and Local Businesses



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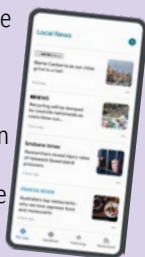
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If you prefer other channels to read news, we are also now on Telegram. Search our channel "Hills to Hawkesbury Community News". The nice thing about Telegram is you see all our news in date order. Unlike Facebook who use an algorithm so THEY decide what you see in your news feed. You can also read our latest news on twitter.

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Having our news published on different platforms means we are consistently increasing our website traffic month on month. Last month 46,000 readers visited our website, So if you are thinking of advertising with us, your ads will be seen by up to 46,000 users per month. We also send our weekly newsletter to over 6000 subscribers. In March our website was shown in search results to 706,000 potential new readers, who clicked through to our website 16,200 times.

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BOX HILL SCHOOLS IN BUDGET

The State Government has announced that a temporary school is being fast-tracked for the growing Box Hill area with enrolments set to open from 2025.

The government will begin work on a new primary school and high school at Box Hill, in addition to the new primary school in Gables currently in planning. Together the three schools will cater for 3000 local students with room to grow.

Both Box Hill and Gables primary schools will be delivered with co-located public preschools to increase access to high quality early education.

Nearby, the state's most populous school campuses at Riverbank Public School and The Ponds High School will receive significant additional funding for further upgrades on top of those already underway, to cater for their large and growing student populations.

New schools have also been announced for Tallawong which will get a new public school and a new high school.

Treasurer Daniel Mookhey said: "This is a must-have investment in the future of Western Sydney families.

"Growing communities, including Box Hill, have been waiting years for this announcement. It means they'll be able to access quality public education close to home.

"It builds on the investments this Government has already made to build stronger communities and better schools by funding critical infrastructure and paying our teachers more.

Member for Riverstone Warren Kirby said: "For years children from Marsden Park and Box Hill have had to travel to Riverstone just to access a public school,

"The delivery of these local schools will not only have a positive impact on our children's

education, it will also reduce traffic on critical roads like Richmond Road, Windsor Road and Garfield Road."

Funds for the new Primary School in the Gables will also include an on-site public preschool.

A site for the new primary school was acquired in early 2023 between Fontana Drive and Cataract Road at Gables.

The Government will be using the Manufacturing for Schools program (announced in February this year) which it says will deliver cost savings of up to 20 per cent and slash construction time by up to 30 per cent.

It incorporates a range of cutting-edge construction techniques including digital technologies, off-site manufacturing and on-site assembly of prefabricated elements to deliver high quality school buildings faster and at a lower cost than with traditional construction methods.

At Oran Park Public School, a stage two upgrade that opened for students to use on day one, Term 1 2024, was installed on site in eight weeks. From design to completion, the project took a total of 13 months.

The Government says the new program will reduce carbon emissions, material waste and water waste on sites in comparison with traditional construction methods.

At the time Deputy Premier and Minister for Education and Early Learning Prue Car said: "This is an economical, sustainable, and speedy solution that will deliver school facilities meeting the needs of our growing population, while getting better bang for taxpayers' buck."

Hills to Hawkesbury

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ATF Paton Family Trust

The Hills to Hawkesbury Community News has been serving this area for nearly 40 years. It's name may have changed over the decades but the commitment to providing a free service to the community is still at the heart of what this hyper local fortnightly publication does. Established in 1982 it has evolved into a community news magazine with a big digital footprint. Our aim is to inform, inspire and connect our community. It is a family-owned small business. Our team is local and love what they do.

Please follow us on Facebook @hillstohawkesbury. Printed copies are available at local shopping centres and other outlets. For a full list visit our website www.hillstohawkesbury.com.au.

TOPLACE APARTMENTS

BY BEV JORDAN

Complex negotiations are still being carried out to find a builder to complete work on the Skyview apartment complex in Castle Hill opposite Castle Towers Shopping Centre.

A spokesman for The Hills Shire Council told the *Hills to Hawkesbury Community News* this week that Building Commission NSW is currently working with receivers and managers to appoint a contract to complete the Hydra, Phoenix and Vela Towers.

"Council staff will continue to work alongside Building Commission NSW to address the defects in these buildings," they said.

Last month (May, 2024) the Supreme Court wound up JKN Hills PTY Ltd which was the Toplace entity responsible for the remediation works.

Buyers were blocked from moving into the \$900million apartment complex in 2021 after the NSW Building Commissioner confirmed "extensive signs of cracking" were discovered in the basement of the buildings.

Thousands of homeowners have been caught up in the collapse of Toplace, one of the biggest private apartment developers in Sydney for over a decade.

As well as the five towers (Lyra, Carina, Hydra, Phoenix and Vella) in the Skyview project Toplace companies also built the Atmosphere building on Old Northern Road, Castle Hill, Grand at Kellyville and was building Box Hill City Centre, bounded by Terry Rd and Mason Road at Box Hill and a townhouse development in Watkins Road, Baulkham Hills.

The dVT Group was appointed as administrators to over five entities related to the Toplace Group after Toplace's building licence was suspended in March 2023. Around \$436 million is owed to unsecured creditors, including \$146 million relating to strata bodies' defect claims, \$85 million to tradies and suppliers and a reported \$25million to the Australian Tax Office.

In answer to questions from the *Hills to Hawkesbury Community News*, a Shire Council spokesperson said: "Development consent for the

Atmosphere building approved 378 residential apartments, most of which are occupied.

"In 2018, an Interim Occupation Certificate was issued by a private certifier and that was the subject of a complaint managed through the Department of Fair Trading.

"Since then, Council staff have raised concerns about the extent of the building's defects and have requested Building Commission NSW to take regulatory action against JKN Hills Pty Ltd to fix the defects.

"In June 2021, Building Commission NSW issued a Prohibition Order on JKN Hills Pty Ltd to prevent the issuing of a final Occupation Certificate. In 2022 and 2023, Building Commission NSW also issued Building Works Rectification Orders on JKN Hills Pty Ltd to rectify the building defects. As JKN Hills Pty Ltd has gone into liquidation, Council staff are working with

Continue on page 14



Close up two unfinished Skyview Towers

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RFS VOLUNTEER HONOURED

The prestigious Australian Fire Service Medal has been awarded to Firefighter Suzanne 'Sue' Talbert from the Hills District RFS.

She was one of eight RFS members named as part of the King's Birthday Honours List for distinguished service by members of Australian fire services.

Sue has spent 45 years as a volunteer with the Kenthurst Brigade.

Her citation reads: "From the very start, Sue demonstrated a passion for service and an unwavering commitment. She later became a dual member with The Hills District Communication Brigade, where she served as a Deputy Captain from 2008 to 2024.

Sue's outstanding dedication extends beyond firefighting.

In 1994, she was a founding member of the RFS Critical Incident Support Services (CISS) team. The CISS provides crucial emotional support to fellow volunteers and staff across the state. Sue works unconventional

hours, traveling throughout NSW often onto firegrounds to prioritise the wellbeing of the RFS family. Over the last 30 years as a member of CISS, Sue has arguably made her greatest impact on the RFS by supporting and protecting its members.

Sue has been deployed to large scale out-of-area incidents, undertaking essential work as a communications operator, aviation radio operator and scribe for group officers in locations including Tarcutta, the Blue Mountains and Narrabri. She believes passionately in the importance of an engaged community and tirelessly coordinates the Kenthurst Brigade's annual 'Get Ready Weekend' activities and 'Firewise for Kids' programs.

Sue's exceptional leadership, selfless dedication and tireless service over 45 years have enriched the lives of countless individuals and strengthened the RFS family. From firefighting to communications, community engagement and critical incident support, Sue has consistently gone above and beyond, making a profound impact on the RFS and community members across the entire state of NSW."

METRO ALERT

Police are stepping up patrols around Metro stations following a number of robberies and threatening behaviour by groups of youths gathering near the entrances.

On one day last week at 3pm police searched a group of teenagers wearing hoodies and face masks at Castle Hill Metro to find a whole collection of weapons including a machete, hammers, box cutters and kitchen knives.

Police are now urging the general public to call police immediately if they see any young males who have their faces covered and wearing a hoodie in groups at train stations and transport hubs anywhere along the Metro line so they can be checked out.

If you are at a Transport Hub, and you see people acting suspiciously, tell staff, or call 131444 to request a police car to patrol. If it is a dangerous situation, call 000 immediately. If you have information about robberies, or violent crime in an around transport hubs contact Crime Stoppers: 1800 333 000 or <https://nsw.crimestoppers.com.au>. Information is treated in strict confidence.

CALLOUS THEFT

A 27-year-old Kellyville woman has been charged with break and enter after the home of 81-year-old Nola Bulkeley was broken into while her family were attending her funeral and wake.

The break-in was discovered by three of the grandmother's grandchildren when they returned to the home from her wake on Friday, May 31st.

Police allege jewellery and iPads were stolen in the break-in at the house on Chalet Rd, Kwllyville which was empty between 8am and 6pm.

The 27-year-old woman and her 27-year-old partner were arrested at a Kellyville home on Wednesday, 5th June.

The woman was taken to Castle Hill Police Station where she was charged with two counts of break and enter house etc steal. The second offence relates to the alleged break in and theft of electronics and jewellery at a home in Lancroft Court, Castle Hill, on Monday 3rd June.

The man was charged with dispose property - theft. Police allege the man sold stolen jewellery.

ROBBER CAUGHT.

General duties police from The Hills Police Area Command were patrolling the North Kellyville area at about 11.30pm on 6th June when they caught a man allegedly in the act of stealing a number of line trimmers, hedge trimmers and other handheld landscaping power tools from a utility and trailer parked on Sandbanks Ave. The 49-year-old Londonderry man is due in court in July after he was arrested at the scene.

SPOOF CALL WARNING

Beware of caller ID spoofing calls. Police in Hills and Hawkesbury have received a large number of people contacting them advising they had received phone calls from the police stations phone number. No response when they answered and no message left.

We urge people to be vigilant about these scam calls. Majority of phone calls from the police station will come from a PRIVATE number. Police will leave a message if we need you to return our phone call!

To find more information about scams in general or impersonation scams, or to find out ways to protect yourself, visit www.scamwatch.com.au

MOTEL ASSAULT

A man is in critical condition following an alleged assault at a motel at about 12.40am on Tuesday 4th June.

Emergency services were called to a motel on George Street, Windsor, following reports a man was being assaulted in a motel room. On arrival, officers attached to Hawkesbury Police Area Command found a 27-year-old man with severe head injuries. He was treated at the scene by NSW Ambulance paramedics and taken to Westmead in a critical condition.

A 53-year-old man was taken to Windsor Police Station for questioning.

DRIVING OFFENCES

Officers from The Hills Highway Patrol suspend a 20-year-old male Learner driver from Lakemba travelling well above the sign posted speed limit with no supervisor. At about 12.55am on Thursday 30th May, officers were conducting stationary speed enforcement along Old Windsor Road, Glenwood and detected a white Suzuki Vitara travelling up to 130 km/hr in a sign posted 80 km/hr zone. The driver returned negative results for alcohol and drugs. He was issued infringement notice for Learner driver exceed speed limit - over 45 km/h, Learner not accompanied by licenced driver/police officer or tester and Learner driver not display L plates. His NSW driver's licence was suspended and confiscated on the spot for a period of 6 months. The vehicle was not owned by the driver and the number plates remained on the vehicle.

Hills Highway Patrol have caught 3048 drivers speeding so far this year. Hills Highway Patrol and Hills Police have also charged 248 drivers so far this year with driving without a licence. Some were disqualified, or never held a licence but some others were suspended drivers due to non payment of fines, and demerit points. To avoid the mandatory penalty of 12 month disqualification if you're caught driving whilst suspended, check that your licence is current now. From July 1, Seatbelt Detection Cameras will be in operation.



CHRISTOPHER'S LAW

BY BEV
JORDAN

Industrial manslaughter legislation has taken a step closer to being made law in NSW after a Bill was introduced in State Parliament on Tuesday, June 4th.

It's been a five year crusade for Patrizia and Robert Cassaniti from Castle Hill who lost their son Christopher in a horrific workplace incident just days after his 18th birthday. They hope the Bill will now pass through both the Lower and Upper House quickly without any amendments.

Christopher Cassaniti died in April 2019 after scaffolding on the building he was working next to at Macquarie Park gave way, trapping the 18-year-old under debris and rubble for 20 minutes before he died.

Synergy Scaffolding Services, which pleaded guilty to one offence under the Work Health and Safety Act, was fined \$2million over the "catastrophic" collapse which also injured another worker.

The scaffolding company was engaged to design, erect and maintain the scaffolding by principal contractor GN Residential Construction, which was fined \$900,000.

NSW is the last mainland state without an industrial manslaughter offence. The maximum penalties under the new legislation will be 25 years jail for an individual and \$20million for a body corporate. Until the new law is passed the maximum penalty is 5 years imprisonment for an individual or a \$3.8 million fine for a body corporate.

Minister for Work Health and Safety Sophie Cotsis said: "Every worker deserves to go home to their loved ones at the end of the day. No government should ever want to have to use these laws. Any workplace death is a tragedy and in cases where a person with a work health and safety duty has been careless or irresponsible, they must be held accountable."

The Cassaniti family have made it their mission since Christopher died to improve workplace safety on construction sites and help families touched by tragedy.

Their Touched by Christopher Foundation provides financial assistance to families of someone who has died on a construction site by providing three months' worth of groceries plus an additional \$1,500 towards current utilities.



Christopher Cassaniti

As part of her business, Let's Talk About Safety, Patrizia has spoken to workers at thousands of construction sites around Australia and overseas reminding them that it's not worth risking their lives to get a job done. Patrizia tells workers: "Every two days an Aussie is going to work and will die. It is my mission to get that number to 0. No Australian should ever go to work and die."

To find out more about the Toolbox Talks contact Patrizia on 0414 656 621 or visit the website <https://letstalkaboutsafety.com.au/>

On 17th October the Touched By Christopher Foundation is hosting a Gala Dinner at Doltone House to raise further funds to provide an additional \$5000 to bereaved families to help with mortgage or rental repayments. Tickets are available on the website <https://touchedbychristopher.org.au/events/event-detail/Gala-Dinner>



Christopher pictured on his 18th birthday with brothers Adriano and Michael and parents Patrizia and Robert.



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Horse carriage ride from the Gas Lamp festival
(Source I love Windsor Facebook)

Visit Windsor and experience its old charm

BY SOPHIE POREDOS

WINDSOR GAS LANTERN FESTIVAL

On the long weekend and King's Birthday in June, Windsor was transported to the 1800s to celebrate its first ever Gas Lantern Festival. Over 25 gas lamps were lit in George Street, titling Windsor as the "Gas Lamp Capital of Australia". Friday night was a triumph of food trucks, parades as well as late night musicians. On Saturday, a horse and carriage could be heard along the cobblestone streets as well as a variety of history tours. However, the event concluded on Monday with a variety of local artists and markets showcasing their creativity. You can peruse the extensive list of photos on Facebook at "Windsor NSW - The Gas Lamp Capital of Australia".

HAWKESBURY REGIONAL GALLERY

Only recently opened in 2005, this public gallery promotes the work of regional and North-Western Sydney artists, presenting their work in a brightly lit space. Often touring exhibitions from regional communities will display their work, otherwise general entry is free. With changing exhibitions and a range of both Indigenous, contemporary and abstract art - the Regional Gallery has something to intrigue everything's tastes. Currently, The New Quilt 2024 exhibition is operating until the end of June, showcasing 37 contemporary textile artists across Australia in conjunction

with QuiltNsw. Public and education programs are also offered including artist talks, master classes and school holiday workshop programs which you can check out on their website.

You can visit this Art Gallery at 300 George Street, Windsor, 2756. They are open 6 days a week from Monday, Wednesday- Friday 10am to 4pm and, Saturday to Sunday 10am to 3pm.

HAWKESBURY REGIONAL MUSEUM

The Regional Museum operates in both a new brick building and the adjacent historic al, Georgian-style Howe House. This heritage home is rich with 200 years of history as it was built by John Home in the 1820s and is now a time-capsule of Australia's colonial history. However, the newly-built museum showcases its previous Tourism and Heritage awards with a variety of displays including Indigenous Australian stories and artefacts, and astronomer John Tebutt's scientific instruments. Perhaps the most intriguing is their 'Paradise Lost' collection exploring the nostalgia of abandoned theme parks and reliving child-hood memories through photographs and memorabilia.

You can visit this regional museum at 8 Baker Street, Windsor 2756. They are open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 10am to 4pm, and Saturday to Sunday from 10am to 4pm. Currently, the Howe House is only open for group-bookings.



Bella Bonazza next to her newly painted mural on Baker Street (Source I love Windsor Facebook)

STREET ART MURALS

Pretty pastels, local birds and bright fruit are all jumping off the walls of George Street's Mall art murals. Designed by David and Noni Craigg in 2019 with conjunction in Art Pharmacy Consulting, these vibrant pieces offer both native and contemporary flora and fauna, bringing lush colour to the historical old town. With a mixture of Eastern Spinebills, a Honeyeater and a Golden Bell Frog are an ode to the traditional Dharug owners of the land and honour Windsor's beautiful landscape.

A recent addition to Baker Street is local artist Bella Bonazza's silhouette of Old Windsor Town outside of The Manor on George. Her art brightens the area and revamps the historical town's image with a focus on traditional and bold colours. You can find the artwork outside of 278 George Street, Windsor.



Art Up Late session in March for the 2023 Archibald Prize (Source: Hawkesbury Regional Art Gallery Facebook)



The Georgian style Howe House which was also a previous newspaper office



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HIDDEN IN THE HILLS Murray Park Road Track

BY LACHLAN TURNER

Bush tracks can take the bushwalker through a variety of landscapes and vegetation. One such track, which is in reality a fire trail, starts and ends at the end of Murray Park Rd Kenthurst.

This track is hardly hidden but the diversity of native flora that can be "discovered", certainly in many cases, is hidden from the view of the casual walker.

At most times of the year the walker can be rewarded in finding a wide variety of wildflowers both large and small, along the fringes of the track. The track passes through ridge top landscapes of open forest and heathland scrub, to a spot where there are views over adjacent forested valleys and slopes.

There is a relatively steep descent into one of these valleys which supports an extensive regrowth forest of towering Blue Gums.

The track then follows Blue Gum Creek upstream a short distance before ascending a reasonably steep hillside to the ridge top plateau.

When walking slowly and quietly through this area it is possible to sight many birds, some that are not usually visible in built up areas, as this is their preferred habitat.

Depending on the pace chosen to walk, it may take up to two hours to complete. Remember to take your camera as there is always the opportunity to capture something memorable.

If you are not a frequent bushwalker accustomed to being out in this environment there are some points of advice to consider when you venture out into bushland. Adequate strong footwear is essential, so too is a hat. If going out for an extended time always take some water and maybe a snack bar or two.

Through the Community Environment Centre at Annangrove there is a program of free guided bushwalks organised throughout the year. For further details go to the Hills Shire Council website at <http://www.thehills.nsw.gov.au> and enter "bushwalks" into the search box at the top of the page.



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At **Ear Studio**, we believe our clients deserve more than just a hearing device; they deserve a personalised journey towards better hearing. We follow best practice audiological principles during every hearing device fitting to ensure that each client receives the highest standard of care. This approach leads to better outcomes and significantly improved quality of life.

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Our commitment to best practice care is highlighted by our membership in the "**Hearing Up**" network. This network obliges its members to adhere to high standards, ensuring every part of the audiological process is handled professionally and with care. **Ear Studio** is proud to be one of only 40 clinics in Australia, and the only one in the hills district, to have met these requirements. This affiliation underscores our dedication to offering superior care that goes beyond the standard offerings of many larger retail chains.

The unregulated nature of the Australian audiology market means many clinics can operate without following best practice principles. This often results in poorly fitted devices and inadequate support, leaving clients dissatisfied. At **Ear Studio**, we are dedicated to filling this gap. Our meticulous approach ensures our clients receive not only the best devices but also the best care and support throughout their hearing journey.

Being a client at **Ear Studio** means entering a partnership where your hearing health is our top priority. From the moment you walk through our doors, you are welcomed into an environment that values your individual needs. Our clinicians take the time to understand your

lifestyle, preferences, and hearing challenges. They tailor each step of the fitting process to suit you perfectly. This personalised care continues beyond the initial fitting, with ongoing support and adjustments to ensure your hearing device serves you well.

At **Ear Studio**, we are more than just a clinic; our clients are at the heart of everything we do, and we are a community dedicated to enhancing lives through better hearing. By choosing us, you choose a path defined by quality, compassion, and unwavering support. We invite you to experience the difference that best practice care can make and join us on a journey toward clearer, more vibrant hearing. **Please call our friendly team at EAR STUDIO on 02 9159 6122 to enquire or book, you can also visit www.earstudio.com.au for more information or to book online. We look forward to hearing from you.**

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"If you're looking for hearing care, our specialists at Ear Studio are ready to assist you. We are dedicated to practicing genuine compassion and generosity for the benefit of every person who visits us. By adhering to Best Practice Audiological Principles, we ensure the highest standard of regulated and unparalleled care. We are a practice where personalised hearing health and positive outcomes are our top priority."

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KING'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

BY BEV JORDAN

Several local residents were honoured on the official King's Birthday weekend; stories about their amazing service are on pages 11, 20 and 38.

DR PAUL GAUDRY AM from Kenthurst for significant service to emergency and forensic medicine and to professional associations.

Westmead Hospital inaugural director of emergency 1980 to 1998 and Forensic Medical Officer in the NSW Police Force Clinical Forensic Medicine Unit from 2010 to 2017. Trained as a cardio thoracic anesthetist, clinical instructor and has numerous awards for distinguished service to emergency medicine.



CHRIS SINCLAIR AM from West Pennant Hills for significant services to squash as an umpire and administrator

Chris has been a leader in the sport since the 1980s becoming an international squash referee in 1987. She is recognised nationally and Internationally for her work as a World Squash Federation assessor and mentor and the work she did as the Championship Referee for the 2018 Commonwealth Games and at all subsequent Commonwealth Games.

A World Senior squash referee assessor since 2010 and a referee from 2003 to 2014, Chris also ran the Sydney Junior pennant for many years, and administered the senior pennant in Sydney's north when there were 260 Women's Teams and 350 Men's Teams.

Chris is an executive with Squash NSW and has won numerous awards including Sports NSW Official of the Year for her outstanding achievements and dedication to the sport. She is also a volunteer with Meals On Wheels.



ANNE STANFIELD AM of Northmead for social welfare.

As Director of St Vincent DePaul housing with St Vincent DePaul Society since 2018, Anne has helped co-ordinate the building of 502 social and affordable housing units.

"We are very proud of the commitment the St Vincent De Paul Society has made to affordable housing," she said.

"There is a great need in the community. If someone has safe and secure housing it enables them to build on other aspects of their life."

Anne is a director of Saint Vincent DePaul society national redress scheme and is former president of The Hills regional council.

She attends St Paul's at Winston Hills and is on the Winston Hills Local Conference but started her association with the St Vincent de Paul while at Harris Park over 35 years ago.

"It's a way of putting faith into action," she said.

Now retired she used to work in education, training and recruitment and has found her professional skills useful in the not for profit sector.

She has been involved in many St Vincent Paul programs over the years including its support centres and the Western Sydney night patrol food van which heads out every night to help people in Mt Druitt and Parramatta.

Her great learnings are not to judge people and understand what their needs are.

She paid tribute to the many volunteers who are doing their best to help others with compassion.

Anne is a member of the Consumer Council at Western Sydney Health District



DR FRANK DOHERTY OAM from Cherrybrook for services to veterinary sciences and the community.

Frank has been President of the Castle Hill and Hills District Agricultural Society since 2016 and honorary vet surgeon since 2013.

His involvement with the Castle Hill Show spans more than 60 years, first as a member of the Epping Junior Farmers and later showing Jersey cattle.

He has been a Representative State disaster plan New South Wales agricultural and animal services committee and is a life member of the Australian Veterinary Association.

He trained as a vet and qualified in 1962 and worked in the Agriculture Department's Laboratory and in the Field for over 40 years becoming Director of the Animal Quarantine Services in 1983. It saw him travel to many parts of the world ensuring (pre-export) the safe passage of pedigree horses and cattle from their home country and through quarantine in Australia.

As President of the Castle Hill and Hills District Agricultural Society he has focussed on giving students at agricultural schools in the area an opportunity to show and judge sheep, cattle and chickens at the Castle Hill Youth Expo run in March.

"We have about 300 young students attending ... it's their last chance to qualify for the Royal Easter Show," he said.

Frank has also been a tour coordinator with the Naval Historical society of Australia since 2010 and a Justice of the peace since 1962



HARINDER KAUR OAM for service to the community through social welfare organisations

Harinder Kaur and her husband Maninder Singh set up the Harman Foundation in 2013 after their eldest son died in a car crash. Harinder said they felt so lost following Harman's death "we were looking for a purpose".

While the Harman Foundation started off as a grief and loss support network it has evolved into supporting victims of domestic violence and the homeless. Harinder says they have a holistic approach and as well as helping people in DV situations they also work with people struggling and have a chaplaincy.

The Harman Foundation is run by volunteers and deals with people in crisis around the clock. The Foundation has food drives and runs events, since 2013 it has reached 20,000 people.

In 2015. The Foundation set up a helpline (1800 116 675) which operates 24/7. In the DV area alone the Foundation has had 500 calls and helped in 150 complex DV cases.

Harinder says the culturally appropriate service is aimed at the South Asian community.

"As we travelled down the path of providing support for grief and loss we came across so many cracks in services," she said.

"We ran a survey of 500 people to find out what services people needed so we started the 1800 number.

"As a family we had never come across family and domestic violence. We had to find resources. In 2016. We opened a shelter in Western Sydney which has helped 75 people. There is such a need, it is always full There's such a scarcity of accommodation that is culturally appropriate.

"In 2022. Because of the need. We also opened a multicultural community hub as well. We have no Government funding."

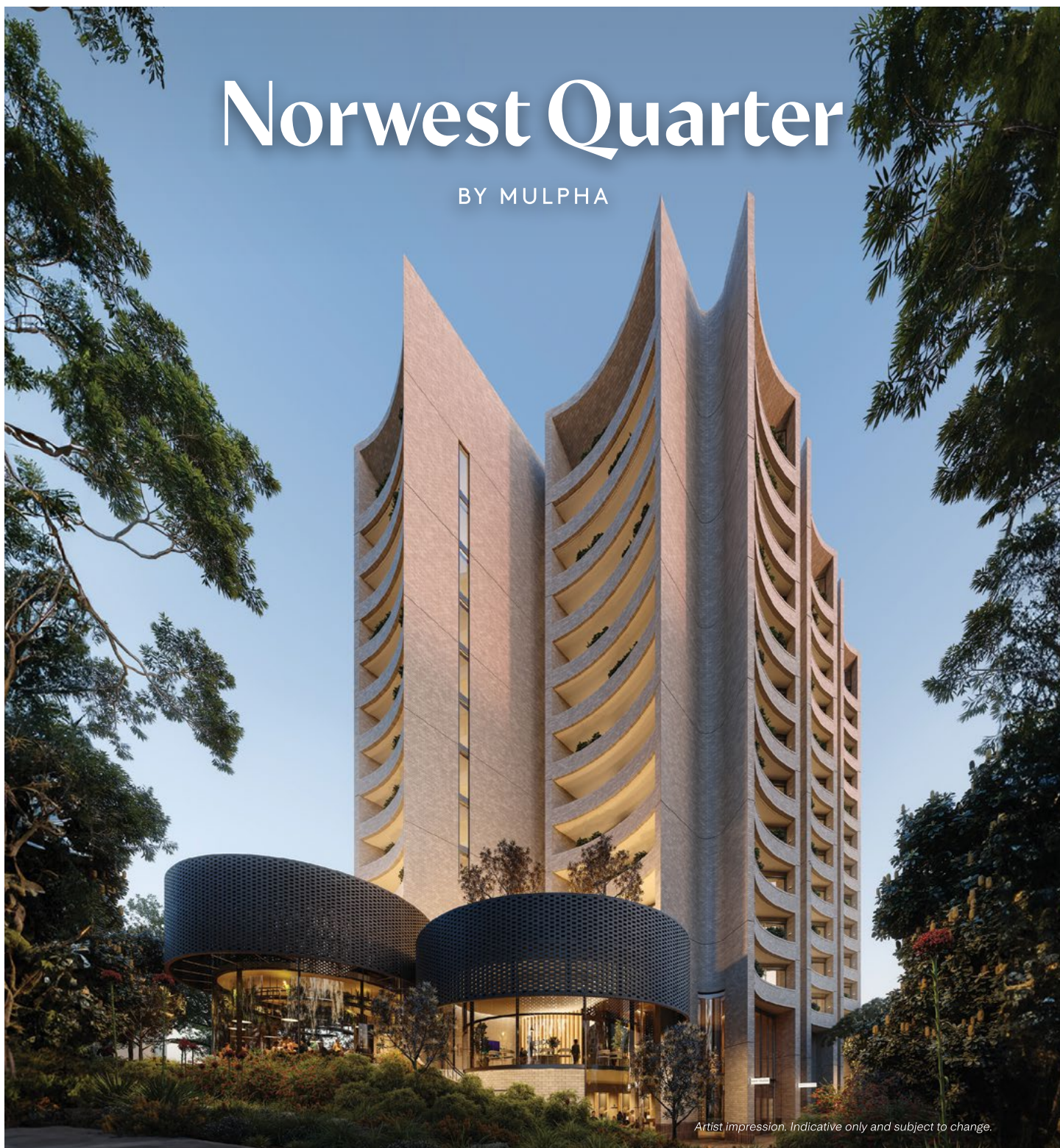
Harinder says the OAM Recognises the work of the Foundation which is also supported by the couple's children Manu and Nikki.



Continue on page 20

Norwest Quarter

BY MULPHA



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LIBRARY NEWS

The Hills Libraries

Little Eco Warriors - Make your own Air Bee n Bee (School Years 2-6)

Thu, 20 June 2024

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Castle Hill Library, 14 Pennant St Castle Hill

Learn about native pollinators and the important work they do in our gardens. Make an insect 'hotel' out of upcycled materials in this hands-on workshop and discover how to attract beneficial insects to our gardens.

Cost | Free | Bookings essential online |

Suitable for children in school years 2-6

This event is for children only. Due to space restrictions, parents will not be permitted and do not require a ticket. This event is fully supervised by library staff.

Books you and your child might enjoy:
Honey bee / Priyadarshini Basu, Can we really help the bees? / Katie Daynes, The beehive / Megan Daley

Learning for Life - Mindful Gardening

Thu, 27 June 2024

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Castle Hill Library, 14 Pennant St Castle Hill
Castle Hill, NSW 2154

Discover the therapeutic benefits of gardening in this evening workshop. Learn how to practice mindfulness as part of your gardening experience. Discover new plants that stimulate your 5 senses and gardening activities that enhance mindfulness. Start your mindfulness journey by making a small succulent bowl to take home.

All materials provided . Free | Bookings essential online | Suitable for Adults. In consideration of others, please cancel your booking if you are no longer able to attend.

Books you might enjoy: A greener life : discover the joy of mindful and sustainable gardening / Jack Wallington, The mindful day / Laurie Cameron, Zen in the garden / Miki Sakamoto

Preschool Storytime

Tuesday, 18 June 2024

10:30 AM - 11:00 AM and

Friday, 21 June 2024 - 10:30 AM

11:00 AM - Held during school term

Baulkham Hills Library, 1 Railway Street,
Baulkham Hills, 2153

Storytime is a fun and interactive 30 minute session for parents and children aged 2-5. It consists of stories, songs and activities which aim to encourage literacy and a love of reading in children. Storytime is a great way to bond with your child. It is also valuable preparation for starting school, as it gives children a chance to participate in a group and introduces them to books and reading.

Held in the children's area of the library, it is an informal gathering with mums and dads joining in.

Benefits of Storytime:

Early exposure to books and reading has been shown to:

- Develop language skills and increase vocabulary
- Trigger the imagination.
- Help make learning to read easier
- Be valuable preparation for starting school
- Foster a lifetime pattern of reading and a love of books
- Promote reading as a fun experience!

Check the website for further details: <https://www.thehills.nsw.gov.au/Residents/Library>



Hawkesbury Shire Library

Free Community Legal Clinic (3rd Wednesday)

Wednesday 19 June 2024 -

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Hawkesbury Central Library, Windsor

Cost: free. Access to an experienced Solicitor from Western Sydney Community Legal Centre is available on the third Wednesday of each month at Hawkesbury Central Library, Windsor from 10am - 1pm. This FREE legal service is a drop-in service, no bookings required.

Third Thursday Book Club

Thursday 20 June 2024

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Hawkesbury Central Library, Windsor

Cost: Free

Come along and meet new people, find out about what others are reading, and discuss what you have read. Or simply come along and listen. Held on the third Thursday of the month.

Interested? Check out the Hawkesbury Readers Blog

This external link will open in a new window to see what the club is reading this month.

Contact Library Staff for more information (02) 4560 4460, or check the website for details. <https://www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/library/whats-on>

All The Hills Shire Council libraries contain resources that detail the history of the Shire, its suburbs, development and well-known people and families. Castle Hill Library has the most comprehensive collection with smaller holdings at Baulkham Hills, Dural and Rouse Hill. Local Studies resources include books, reports, local newspapers, pamphlet files, aerial photos, maps and street directories. Many of these items are unique, fragile, often out of print and therefore irreplaceable. As a result they can only be used in the Library. Local maps, subdivision plans and aerial photos are available to view on touch tables at our Castle Hill Library and Vinegar Hill Memorial Library.



View of 4 of the 5 Skyview towers Castle Hill



Atmosphere building Castle Hill

TOPPLACE APARTMENTS FROM PAGE 3

the Strata Manager, owners of the building and their fire engineer to address the defects in the building.

"Regarding the five Skyview Towers, in June 2021, an interim Occupation Certificate was issued for the Lyra and Carina buildings, which certified these two buildings were safe to be occupied. Both buildings are occupied. Since then, Council and Fire and Rescue NSW have raised concerns about the defects of these buildings. Building Commission NSW is currently investigating these defects.

"In September 2023, Building Commission NSW issued a Prohibition Order and a Draft Building Works Rectification and is working with the appointed receivers and managers to address the defects in the building.

"These two examples are very concerning to Council as unit owners are exposed to large strata fees to fix defects that should have been the builder's responsibility in the first place. These are examples where the independent building certification system should be overhauled to protect consumers and if it is not fixed, these examples will make housing targets all the more difficult to resolve."

On June 15th 2023 Hills Shire Council issued Toplace with a notice to rectify fire safety issues at its Skyview Apartment building after the partially completed apartment complex failed a Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW) inspection.

FRNSW discovered several fire safety breaches including an inoperable and dry fire hydrant system (for the three of five buildings

under construction within the complex), faults, isolations, and disconnections on the fire indicator panel, problems with the emergency warning and intercom systems, issues with the absence of fire compartmentation in the basement carpark. A media statement from Hills Shire Council at the time said staff also inspected the building and identified issues with the sprinkler system, non-compliant ceiling heights, non-related fire services found in the fire stairway and problems with fire doors not opening and closing, amongst other safety breaches.

In July 2023 the Hills to Hawkesbury Community News reported that Antony Resnick and Suelen McCallum of the dVT Group had been announced as voluntary administrators of Toplace Pty Ltd.



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or contact clinic

The wonderful team of volunteers at Hawkesbury's Helping Hands at a Hamper Day!



Hawkesbury's Helping Hands ahead of the floods

BY SOPHIE POREDOS

Tucked away in a warehouse on Walker Street, this homeless aid organisation in South Windsor is one of a kind: offering hot food, drop in hub, and hot showers even in the face of ongoing flood threats.

Since the South Windsor charity's inception in 2011 by Linda Strickland and her daughter, hot meals have been offered every Saturday and Sunday; fortifying the community and offering dignity back into the lives of those doing it tough. The atmosphere at the dinners is beautiful and attention to detail is taken with spreads, linen tablecloths and always a delicious dessert to finish the night with. Linda is incredibly down-to-earth and passionate about her cause, with great ambitions to offer even more services, "We are a food rescue & relief charity trying to help those experiencing homelessness and food poverty".

Hawkesbury's Helping Hands also prepares fresh food hampers sold each Saturday 2-4:30pm. Despite the struggle to maintain the cap at \$20, the hampers remain incredibly generous and affordable as most of the food is purchased out of pocket by the charity. The hampers are nutritionally dense, offering people almost a trolley-worth of cold food, dry cupboard goods and fresh produce.

Battling against the sharp bite of Winter and the rise of rough sleepers, Linda offers hot showers and has recently introduced a 'Warm Room' on the top level of the warehouse, which operates 8am to 1pm on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Community and connection is at the heart of Linda's work, as

the 'Hub' which operates at the same time is a safe place for people to have a cup of tea and connect with nearby services.

"Our warm room gives people a chance to snuggle up on a bean-bag, have a nap, and watch TV. It gives them a safe where they can relax during the day. They're welcome to bring up coffee, tea or popcorn - whatever they choose. A lot of people who are homeless don't have a lot of choices and giving someone a choice, is giving them their dignity".

A new computer room, expected to open within the next month in partnership with Mastercard, will offer opportunities for people to bridge the gap in technological access. Donations of desks, computers, printers and also a free-wifi network are included for viable job-searching opportunities without the judgement of public spaces.

The impact of Hawkesbury's Helping Hands on the local community is phenomenal, Linda has seen families grow up and people's situations change: "We still have people come in and say, 'You were there when we needed you the most'. Last year, I was surprised when a group of regulars visited me outside the warehouse saying 'We came home for Christmas!' It was incredibly moving".

However, Hawkesbury's Helping Hands has been greatly affected by the cost of living crisis

as Linda reflected on the increased pressure on their services: "A new demographic has found themselves in these tough situations - the working poor. But the cost of living is also affecting charities - our overheads are higher. Hawkesbury's Helping Hands is completely unfunded and relies solely on donations. The Hawkesbury has also dealt with eight major floods in 2 to 3 years and has been hit so hard, we are in constant recovery mode."

Linda praises her volunteers and expresses her deepest gratitude to everyone that has helped: "We are very fortunate with our volunteers, without the community and volunteers we wouldn't be running for 13 years. Thank you for believing in us and our core mission". She also is desperate for new community-minded individuals who are willing to offer 4 hours a month to volunteer in cooking, delivering ingredients or assisting at food pickups. You can contact Linda at hawkesburyshelpinghands@gmail.com and also check out the amazing work on the Facebook Page: *Hawkesbury's Helping Hand*. If you find yourself in difficult times, swing by Unit E on 28 Walker Street, South Windsor to receive a helping hand from the lovely volunteers. Their opening hours are 9am to 1pm Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and meal services are 12pm to 1pm on weekends.

THE HILLS WOMEN'S SHED: Connection through Craft

BY SOPHIE POREDOS

The Positive Vibes Foundation and their partnership with The Hills Women's Shed unites women together and inspires connection through their workshops.

Within the brick-buildings at Balcombe Heights Estate in Baulkham Hills, you'll find a community of women who connect every Thursday morning to learn new skills ranging from tools, craft and dance. Women's Shed's are a relatively new concept in Australia, as there are only about 50 sheds dedicated towards women compared to 1,200 Men's sheds.

The Positive Vibes Foundation is a not-for-profit charity, "promoting positive mental health in Communities through Connections and Conversations". They opened the Hills' Women's Shed in 2018 and it's the first of its kind in the area: creating a community for women to feel empowered. Protecting and promoting mental health is imperative more than ever, with social isolation rising even as we become more interconnected online.

Director Susan Smith works alongside Jeanette Farrell, to bring a safe place where

women can have a cup of tea and reconnect with other women. Susan recounted why the Women's Shed is so important for women's mental health: "Over at the Women's Shed, it's really about creating a safe and warm environment for women to decompress and share their life circumstances. Loneliness is a big player with mental health, so our Shed creates an outlet for women to find community, like-minded people and friendships".

Previous artistic classes have included macrame, dot-painting and mosaic. However, they also provide a range of instructional workshops aimed at empowering women such as changing tyres, stroke prevention talks and checking car oil. To RSVP for upcoming classes, you can book at their Facebook Page: "Positive Vibes - The Hills Women's Shed". You can also contact thehillswomensshed@positivevibes.org.au or contact 0408 549 350.



The Hills Women's Shed is every Thursday 11am to 1pm. You can find the range of classes at Building 32, Balcombe Heights Estate, Seven Hills Road.

STRONGER TOGETHER

It may be a new name but the Stronger Together Foundation has been helping families for over a decade.

Previously known as the Fit Kidz Foundation it supports around 120 families across its different programs every year.

The official opening of the Stronger Together Foundation office at Castle Hill was held on Wednesday, 12th June. The not-for-profit has been providing support and services to local children who have a disability, delay or neurodivergent needs, their families and local community for over 10 years.

Services include, vital early intervention therapies, such as Speech and Occupational Therapy and family support such as, sibling support groups, family connection groups, and family events where families who have a child with a disability can come together in a safe way to form connections with each other.

Ellen Kulbicki (Witzlsperger), Educational and Developmental Psychologist with the Stronger Together Foundation said: "Over the 10 years we have supported around 500 different families, some stay with us for many years."

The Stronger Together Foundation was awarded the 2024 Hills Shire Community Group of the Year for the work it does in the community, in particular its highly regarded annual 'Stronger Together Conference'.

The first Stronger Together Conference held in 2022 was attended by 200 parents and

its success was repeated the next year. The one-day conference is for parents and carers of children with disabilities or neuro-diversity and aims to break down the isolation that many parents of children with special needs feel. This year's conference is on Saturday, August 31st at Castle Hill RSL.

Cheralee, whose 12-year-old son lives with Autism and intellectual disability said:

"The Stronger Together Conference is a one-of-a-kind and invaluable experience for the special needs community. It is a very rare opportunity to have access to multiple disability service providers, resources, amazing and informative presentations and network with other special needs parents in one place at the same time."

Under the guidance of Ellen Kulbicki, who was named 2024 Hills Shire Citizen of the Year, the Stronger

Together Foundation continues to find opportunities to further support the local disability community.

"We are committed to ensuring all children with a disability are included in our community, and so our supports and services go beyond just supporting the child and family. They also focus on building a community of families who have a child with a disability to form meaningful connections and reduce social isolation," she said. "We are not just an early intervention service, we are a community."

Ellen has been involved in the Disability and Inclusion Reference Group for the Hills Shire Council and has been supporting the Council's events team to host sensory sensitive sessions at local events and discuss opportunities to ensure the community is inclusive of children with disabilities and their families.



Stronger Together therapist Lauren MacLean working with Leonidas and his mum Kylie



Dolphins make a Splash

CHRSL Dolphins Swimming Club members made a big splash at Hornsby pool earlier this year at the 2024 RSL State Swimming Championships, where the club was represented by 51 enthusiastic swimmers.

With ages ranging from 7 to 17, these young athletes were ready to show their skills and represent their club and Castle Hill RSL with pride. This annual event is open to all affiliated RSL Youth Clubs and is a highlight for swimmers across New South Wales, who compete in trials during November and December for places to represent their Zone as a State Representative. The 2024 RSL State Swimming Championships were held on 9th March, and CHRSL swimmers competed as part of the Zone 4 team, in multiple individual events and many relays.

Club President, Angie Soliman said the many Championship events are great for team spirit and add to the camaraderie and excitement of the day. "What set the CHRSL Dolphins Club apart was their impressive turnout. With 51 club members selected to swim, they comprised the largest contingent representing Zone 4. Their collective effort paid off handsomely, as they clinched the title of overall point winners for their zone, showcasing the depth of talent within the club, and winning all bar one of the many trophies that were on offer," she said.

The success of the club, which has grown in numbers significantly over the past year, continued at the 2024 National Age Championships, held at the Gold Coast in Queensland, between the 6th and 14th of April.

The number of swimmers representing the club at national level doubled compared to 2023, with 12 swimmers selected to represent the club in five individual events and three relay races. "Many swimmers achieved personal best times, but perhaps most impressive were two athletes, aged just 14 and 15, who surpassed expectations by achieving National Open qualifying times, a testament to their dedication and hard work. "The display of teamwork and individual effort was outstanding and the support that our swimmers demonstrated for each other was commented on by many other clubs.

Iain Cox (Club Vice President) said: "The team spirit and support shown by our swimmers at every event they attend, including Friday club races, is a testament to the strong family-orientated culture within the club where the swimmers are supported by a highly committed team of technical officials, board members and, of course, the coaching team from Castle Hill Swimming. "The future of the Dolphins is looking fantastic."



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BOOK NOW

The Cumberland Gang Show is back and better than ever!

Showing exclusively at the Parramatta Riverside Theatre these July School Holidays, the aptly named 'Off The Record' promises to be two super fun hours of sensational family entertainment.

This year Gang Show boasts 140 cast members and many more in the support crew. This team of talented Scouts and Guides will wow the audiences with dazzling songs and dance routines, hilarious comedy all backed by a twenty-piece live orchestra. The production will showcase the latest in digital theatre technologies, along with incredible sets and costumes.

Rob Lang, Producer and Director, says "It will be clear what the Gang Show can do when we deliver a simply stunning show that the audiences will absolutely love! They will be laughing in the aisles and tapping their feet to our fresh and fantastic musical variety show."

Every year Gang Show trains and mentor hundreds of young Scouts and Guides through the process of writing, staging and performing the show.

David Shaw who has grown up performing in the Gang Show and leads the Marketing and Sales team, says "Gang Show is such a brilliant opportunity for young people. Kids build confidence, make life-long friends, learn important skills and have fun all at the same time!"

Tim, from 2nd Baulkham Hills Venturers, has been performing with the show for 7 years and says "you can be friends with people here that you would never be friends with usually, it's a great way to make friends"

Eloise, with the 1st Kellyville Guides, is in her second year performing with Gang Show.



She says "I like hanging out with my friends and learning new skills"

Siobhan, from 2nd Baulkham Hills Scouts, loves being part of the dance team "I've always been a performer, I started dancing when I was three and love performing through Gang Show, it's just what I love."

Evelyn, from Crestwood Adventure Guides, is in her second year of Gang Show and says "My guide leader was one of the welfare team

here and she encouraged me to join. Over the two years I have been here I have made so many great friends and friendship is forever."

Participants can also choose to work behind the scenes on everything from music, staging, costuming, makeup, lighting or props. Jacob, from the Kings Langley Rover Crew, is a production team member and item director. He says "for the last three years I have been working in and out of venues in Sydney from the Opera House to the State Theatre, without Gang Show I wouldn't have been able to achieve my goals. It has definitely inspired me".

The 2024 Gang Show includes a funky beats party, reaching for the top of a mountain in the most hilarious way and sailing the seven seas on a pirate ship. The show will include original songs and skits written by local Scouts and Guides plus you will be rocking along to tunes by Maroon 5, Pseudo Echo, Bruno Mars, Macklemore, The Jackson 5 and many, many more amazing artists.

Six shows only, at the Riverside Theatre in Parramatta these July school holidays.

- Wednesday 10 July, 7:30pm
- Thursday 11 July, 11am
- Friday 12 July, 7:30pm
- Saturday 13 July, 2:30pm
- Saturday 13 July, 7:30pm
- Sunday 14 July, 2:30pm

Book your tickets directly through the Riverside Theatre - <https://riversideparramatta.com.au/whats-on/cumberland-gang-show/> If you want to learn more about Gang Show and how you can join in the fun, head to www.gangshow.asn.au

Hawkesbury Gallery's upcoming printmaking exhibition

The Hawkesbury Regional Gallery will launch its new exhibition 'Origin: The Place where Something Begins', on Friday, 28 June 2024.

Leading the major printmaking exhibition is the Sydney Printmakers, a 60-member group that aims to develop its artists' work and the promotion and education on printmaking. The printmaking showcase will end on Sunday, 18 August.

The Gallery says the Origin exhibition explores the different interpretations of the term 'origin':

"In the exhibition, each member has extended their print practice - both conceptually and in media - to reflect the zeitgeist of the print medium," the Hawkesbury Gallery says.

"This exhibition pays homage to traditional printmaking practices using etching, woodblock and lithography while also extending an

investigation into contemporary hybrid forms of printmaking with monoprints, unique state prints, photopolymer and new digital technologies."

On 18 July, locals can listen to the printmakers' thoughts and chat on 'Artists in Conversation' and attend a \$75 Lino Printing workshop with artist Cheryle Yin Lo on 3 August.

It succeeds the NewQuilt exhibition, a moment to see quilts as an artistic medium, which began its stay at the Gallery in early May.

The Hawkesbury Regional Gallery is located at 300 George Street, First floor, Deerubbin Centre at Windsor, NSW 2756.

For more details, visit hawkesburygallery.eventbrite.com.



Seraphina Martin, Nature evolving (detail), 2022, courtesy the artist, Photography: Irena Conomos



Ann Bewah Wu, Looking Inward and Back, 2022, relief linocut with chine collé, Edition 4, 38 x 54cm. Photography: Irena Conomos.

KING'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

FROM PAGE 12

"The Harman Foundation's work is grounded in a collaborative approach, for the community by the community. I would like to extend heartfelt thanks to our more than 200 volunteers and our donors," she said.

She hopes that the government at all levels will help support the foundation and the services it provides.

CAROLYN KITTO OAM Castle Hill service to the community through social justice

Co Director of Be Slavery Free since 2011 consultant and co-director Spirited Counselling since 1999. Be Slavery Free is seeking to solve this global problem of modern slavery by preventing it from occurring in the first place. Be Slavery Free works with industry to employ practices that will eliminate slavery, educates consumers with the knowledge that they need to choose slavery-free products and lobby governments for better regulations and guidelines to stop slavery.

Carolyn has been a community engagement officer with UTS and worked with World Vision Australia. Her consultancy, Spirited Consulting, has worked in 51 countries in the last 22 years.



STEPHEN O'DOHERTY OAM of Dural service to the community

The OAM recognises Stephen's involvement with organisations including Hope Media (Hope 1032 Sydney), with the Christian Media and the Arts Australia (CMAA).

Stephen began his career in commercial radio, then moved into television before becoming an MP. He was elected to State Parliament in 1992 for the seat of Ku-ring-gai and in 1999 he was re-elected to the seat of Hornsby following a redistribution of electoral boundaries. He served as a Shadow Minister for Education and Community Services, and was then Shadow Treasurer until his resignation in 2002 to take the role as CEO of Christian Schools Australia.

He has been involved in music and the arts since the 80s. Stephen has been musical director and principal conductor of the Golden Kangaroos Hornsby concert band since 2009.

Hope Media Chair 2005 to 2023 and Director produced programs at the open house program, Paton of studio arts north side since 2000. Chief Executive Officer Christian schools Australia for 14 years Chair family radio Limited since 2016, Chair Sunshine Coast Christian broadcaster Limited Christian media and art Australia director since 2013.

He was a broadcaster on 2GB radio for its Breakfast and Drive programs, national affairs reporter Network 10 and NSW political reporter 730 report ABC 1989. He has been Principal Stephen O'Doherty Communications since 2017.



NALIKA PADMASENA OAM from Schofield service to the multicultural community

Nalika said she was overwhelmed when she received notification she had been nominated for an OAM.

"To me. It's about the recognition for the work and the services that we are providing in the multicultural community. We have been working in this area since 1974, but we still have a long way to go."



Nalika was President of the Sri Lankan Association of NSW 2019 to 2021, a language Teacher North Parramatta from 2006 director Positive Vibes foundation for four years, member South West regional advisory Council multicultural NSW since 2016, member multicultural communities consultation Council anti-discrimination board of NSW 2014 to 2019, Board member Northwest Community services Riverstone, member of India club, member Elder abuse Network management committee, member Toongabbie Legal Centre, Volunteer coordinator open community legal education workers network since 2013, anti-violence project officer Cumberland women's health service, Senior service acting principal solicitor since 2008.

Nalika said she had received so many messages of congratulations.

"I have been living in this country for about 30 years. I feel I am so lucky to fall into the community sector work.

"I came here as a trained lawyer but never intended to get my practicing certificate. However, the way people looked down on my status and the position, stirred me to change the path to where I am today.

"It was a hard road to keep my head up as a migrant woman sometimes.

This country adopted multiculturalism and its benefits in 1974.

"However, there is a lot to be done to build community harmony and cohesion.

"Community cohesion, understanding diversity, respecting cultural diversity that we embrace in this society are very important factors for how we live and progress in this country.

"I was drawn to community activities to occupy myself from homesickness and loneliness. That enabled me to grow a great network and engage in interesting and unique work which gave me the opportunity to learn.

"Social justice and access to justice are particularly my strong advocacy points because education and empowerment I believe give one the strength but also build a better and stronger society with far better outcomes for individuals as well as for the society."

PROFESSOR ANDRE RENZAH OAM of Kellyville Ridge distinguished for medical research particularly refugee and migrant health

Distinguished professor school of medicine at Western Sydney University since 2015 and Professor of humanitarian development studies. Prior to that he was the Director of Migration, Social Disadvantage, and Health Programs at Monash University.

With a background in Global Health and International Development, he has professional experience in complex humanitarian emergencies and development practice, international public health, and nutrition epidemiology. From 2003 to 2006, he oversaw the evaluation of more than 40 AusAID NGO Cooperation Programs with World Vision Australia covering Sub-Saharan Africa, Eastern Europe, the Middle East, Latin America, the Pacific, and Asia; and acted as the Technical Director of the Impact Assessment of Australian Aid for the Bougainville Infrastructure.

He has worked with a number of United Nations including working with Care Australia, Concern Worldwide, Médecins Sans Frontières, the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, and the United Nations Children's Fund. He has published more than 180 papers.



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'Doesn't a month go by quickly!'

As the chill of winter has well and truly set in, many of us will be tempted to hibernate indoors and let our fitness routines drop.

However, experts advise that winter is an opportune time to kickstart a regime that can sculpt the coveted summer body. With tailored programs and inclusive classes, individuals of all ages can find something to meet their fitness needs here at The Centre Dural.

For those aged over 55, we have our Over 55's Movement Class, offering a gateway to vitality. With sessions running Monday-Friday, our participants engage in exercises designed to enhance mobility, strength and balance, focusing on functionality in a fun engaging way. These sessions not only foster physical wellbeing, but also a sense of community and camaraderie among participants, with the majority of attendees having a morning coffee and chat in our onsite café after the class ends.

For the early risers among us, we offer 6am group fitness classes, designed to test and challenge you, on a Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Think boot camp style, but modified to suit individual needs, and indoors, not out

in the weather. Our Ladies only classes are a space where ladies can pursue their fitness goals, in supportive women-only classes. Held on a Tuesday, these sessions provide a supportive environment for women to challenge themselves without fear of judgement.

As the adage goes, "summer bodies are made in winter," and these offerings underscore the notion that dedication to fitness knows no seasonal bounds. Whether one is aiming to maintain wellness, build strength, or simply stay warm during the cooler months, these opportunities beckon individuals to embrace the spirit of movement and self-improvement. As temperatures drop, let determination rise, and let winter become the season of transformation and empowerment through fitness.

There is always something going on at The Centre, so feel free to pop on over to our website, to check out all the other things we have to offer, thecentredural.org.au/ or phone 8989 0000.



The Prattent Cup: A Tradition of Community and Charity

Kellyville, NSW – The Prattent Cup, a much-anticipated annual football event, has grown from a friendly match into a significant community fundraiser since its inception in 2018. Originally a match between the Kellyville Kolts and Winston Hills Bears Men's Premier League teams, the event now stands as a testament to community spirit and philanthropy, raising substantial funds for local causes.

The event, named after former club president, life member, and club sponsor Steve Prattent, was established to honor his contributions to the club. Over the past seven years, The Prattent Cup has successfully raised over \$250,000, aiding local families and charities in need.

This year's proceeds will benefit The Sanctuary - The Hills Women's Shelter, a critical community service that offers support and shelter to women and children fleeing domestic violence and homelessness. Established in 2016, The Sanctuary, in partnership with Women's Community Shelters and the Hills Shire community, provides a safe haven where residents can rebuild their lives with dignity and security.

The Kellyville Kolts' support for The Sanctuary aligns with the club's values of community and resilience. The shelter not

only offers refuge but also empowers women and children to lead independent lives free from fear. The Kolts' involvement ensures that every contribution directly aids those in need, fostering a spirit of cooperation and mutual support within the Hills District.

A Day of Football and Fun

This year's Prattent Cup promises to be bigger and better, featuring matches from both the Men's and Women's Premier League teams on the same day for the first time. The event will also include an Under 8 Gala Day, with young talents from the Kolts and the Bears showcasing their skills. The schedule is packed with exciting matches:

- 13:00 – Kolts Youth Boys Premier League vs. Winston Hills Bears
- 15:00 – Kolts Women's Premier League vs. Winston Hills Bears
- 15:00 – Kolts Men's Premier League Reserve Grade vs. Winston Hills Bears
- 17:00 – The Prattent Cup: Kolts Men's Premier League First Grade vs. Winston Hills Bears

In addition to the on-field action, the event at Bernie Mullane Sports Complex on June 22, 2024, will feature inflatables, face painting, and the ever-popular GIANT RAFFLE.

THE PRATTENT CUP

22ND JUNE 2024
BERNIE MULLANE

KELLYVILLE KOLTS	VS	WINSTON HILLS BEARS
PREMIER YOUTH LEAGUE 13:00	WOMENS PREMIER LEAGUE & RESERVE GRADE 15:00	PREMIER LEAGUE FIRST GRADE 17:00

Kellyville Kolts Raffle

ALL PROCEEDS TO CHARITY

Heaps of prizes to be won, sausage sizzle, jumping castles, games and much more!

SCAN TO PURCHASE TICKETS

THE GIANT RAFFLE

Tickets for the raffle are priced at \$5 each, 5 for \$20, or 10 for \$35. The first prize is a \$5000 family holiday to Fiji or Hamilton Island, with a total prize pool valued at over \$17,000 and growing daily. Raffle tickets can be purchased online at Kellyville Football Club's website (<https://www.kellyville.football/our-club/prattent-cup>).



WINTERFEST IS COMING

Gather your fellow adventurers and venture forth to Winterfest Sydney
Medieval Fair for a weekend of fun and adventure!

Winterfest is back on 6 - 7 July 2024 at the Hawkesbury Showground, 10am - 5pm.

At Winterfest you can adventure into a world with free flying birds of prey, knights, vikings and more. From jousting, archery and combat to crafts, cooking and games, this popular two-day event features an extensive program to delight the whole family.

Immerse yourself in the action with a wonderful line-up of entertainment, including:

- The exciting **Winterfest Jousting Tournament** - the sport of kings!
- **Full Contact Fighting with Australian Medieval Combat**: The best fighters from NSW and Victoria battle it out in full medieval armour
- Meet graceful and powerful raptors with **Feathered Friends** including the majestic eagle.

- **Melee Battles** with warriors in armour from a range of historical periods. Watch the groups battle for supremacy in the 'Combat and Arms' displays.
- **The Mounted Skill-at-Arms**, demonstrating the skills required for knights in battle on horseback.
- **The Re-enactors' Row**, where you can try helmets, armour, shields and weapons.

Explore the vibrant range of wares at 'Merchant's Row', with over 70 stalls including quality artisan and handcrafted wares, clothing, accessories, and toys, to delectable home-made sweets and stunning artwork! Discover traditional skills in the 'Artisan Alley' with displays throughout the day, including blacksmithing, woodworking, and leatherwork.

Roaming entertainers add to the festival, including musicians and minstrels, and meet 'Feldergast the Fool' the wandering jester.

Treat yourself with many delicious foods to choose from, including delicious slow-cooked BBQ, gluten-free Japanese style chicken, handmade pizza, and refreshing ginger beer.

Have a go at archery, Celtic drumming workshops, and the chance to learn to use a rapier. Have your photo taken with a unicorn, and kids can join in at the Kids' Knight School.

Come along in a medieval-inspired outfit or fantasy-style clothing; all medieval periods, cultures, and styles are welcome. The free-to-enter Winterfest Costume and Cosplay competition is always popular. Join the competition parade for judging and fun.

You still have time to go into the draw for a giveaway of one of 4 x Family Day Passes valued at \$95 each. Closes Monday, 17th June. Each pass is for 2 x Adults and 2 x Children. Tell us in 20 words or less why you want a Family Pass and email your response plus your name, suburb and contact details to contribute@hillstohawkesbury.com.au. Some entries are already in! The lucky winners will be notified by email as well as an announcement published in the magazine on Friday, 28th June. Terms and conditions for all competitions are on the H2H website.

Getting to and parking at Winterfest is easy at the Hawkesbury Showground: Free on-site parking and Clarendon Railway Station is only two minutes' walk from the gates. Pre-purchase your tickets online for discounts, or you can buy at the gate. www.winterfest.com.au 40 Racecourse Road, Clarendon NSW 2756 (opposite the RAAF Base). Connect with us: Facebook, Instagram and YouTube.

WINTERFEST

Sydney Medieval Fair

6 - 7 July 2024

Hawkesbury Showground

Escape to Winterfest for a weekend of history and fantasy!

Meet knights, vikings, unicorns, elves & orcs
Birds of prey | Artisan market stalls | Archery
Costume & cosplay parade | Traditional crafts
Kids' knight school | and more!

Find out more at winterfest.com.au [/WinterfestSydney](https://www.youtube.com/WinterfestSydney)

out and about

with **MICHELLE BYRNE**

Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Rose Garden

Formerly known as the Roxborough Rose Garden, Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Rose Garden is an ideal place to stop and smell the roses, literally!

The Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Rose Garden occupies over 8000 square meters and contains over 4000 roses from more than 80 different species and is one of the largest rose gardens in Sydney.

What makes well-loved Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Rose Garden even more special is the history of the site. The land on which the Rose Garden sits was originally owned by Scottish immigrants Andrew and Elizabeth who migrated in 1799 who named it after Roxburgh County in Scotland. The site was sold multiple times over the years and used for different things including orchards, a storage area for a hardware company and finally as the Roxborough Park housing estate before acquired by Council.

In 1966 Council was approached by the NSW Association of Nurserymen and Garden Societies who requested a rose garden be planted within the Hills with the site on Roxborough Park Road chosen. The original concept design for the garden was prepared by the Senior Landscape Designer of the Royal Botanic Gardens included terraces created by natural rock retaining walls, a flight of steps bisecting the terraces and a circular rotunda in the middle of the garden. The Roxborough Park Rose Garden opened in 1972 and celebrated its 50th Anniversary in 2022. In 2023 the rose garden was renamed Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Rose Garden in dedication to Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.



The rose garden also contains roses marking historical events such as the Australian Bi-Centennial Rose, The Hills Shire Council Rose, the Olympic Gold Rose and the Little Sunset Rose which was planted to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Hills Soroptimists. The construction of the fountain and pool still present today was carried out by the Castle Hill Rotary Club in the early 1970s reflecting the importance of the rose garden to the community then and now.

The rose garden is in full bloom in the Spring though there are some roses that bloom during the colder months. However, despite the season it is a wonderful place to walk through and to enjoy the beauty and fragrance of the various roses. It is also a great place to sit and read a book either on one of the park benches in the garden or on the grass area under the trees.

If you have not visited the Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Rose Garden it is well worth a visit and given its location to Waves Aquatic Centre why not pop in and grab a coffee before or after your walk through the rose gardens.

For more information on the Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Rose Garden or to volunteer with looking after the roses go to www.thehills.gov.nsw.au



The Hills Shire Council News

Calling all Hills Youth

If you know someone between the ages of 15-24 who wants to be more involved in our community, encourage them to sign up to the Hills Youth Army.

Members contribute to our local Hills community through:

- Volunteer initiatives
- Community participation and
- Connecting and encouraging other young people.

The Hills Youth Army also helps young people develop social awareness, problem-solving and leadership skills. Members have access to free skills and training opportunities as well as wellbeing support.

To find out more and get involved, search for 'Hills Youth Army' on Council's website.



Come and try walking basketball

Join a free session of walking basketball in Castle Hill at the Hills Basketball Stadium, Fred Caterson Reserve.

The session is open to all ages, genders and abilities. Whether you played years ago and want to get back into it, have never touched a ball or want to give something less strenuous a go, walking basketball could be the sport for you.

The session involves light exercise and the opportunity to socialise and meet other individuals wanting to improve and maintain their health. Head over to Council's website and search 'walking basketball' for more information and to register.

Be part of the Pioneer Theatre's 2024/25 Season



Are you searching for a boutique theatre for your next production between now and early 2025? Thinking about a place that can showcase your performance to new audiences? The Pioneer Theatre is located in the vibrant heart of Sydney's North-West just a short walk from the Castle Hill Metro and bus interchange.

Perfect for your next theatrical production, musical, cabaret, orchestral evening, comedy nights, or live music performances. If you can manage your own ticketing and have a show you've been eager to present, this could be the opportunity you have been waiting for!

Visit www.pioneertheatre.com.au/expressions-of-interest for more information.

WALKING BASKETBALL



COME & TRY SESSION | 25 JUNE | 10 - 11AM | HILLS BASKETBALL STADIUM

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Enter your photo of The Hills for your chance to WIN

There is still time to enter our photography competition for the 2025 Waste and Recycling Calendar.

Showcase your creative talent and have your photograph featured in our calendar which is distributed to all households across The Hills Shire.

The competition is open to all skill levels from professionals to hobbyists.

The theme is 'Your Hills.' Capture your favourite Hills location through your camera lens.

Prizes are:

- A \$100 Coles and Myer voucher for the front cover
- A \$50 Coles and Myer voucher for the monthly feature photographs

Entries close on Sunday 23 June 2024 at 11:59pm.

For more details on how to enter, visit Council's website and search for 'Waste Calendar Photo Competition'.

Council Meetings

Tuesday 25 June 2024 at 7pm

For more information, visit www.thehills.nsw.gov.au and search for 'Meeting Agendas and Minutes.'

Workshops for local businesses



Are you the owner of a small business within the Hills? Are you looking for ways to develop your business knowledge, tools and strategies? Council's Small Business Education Series offers a variety of free workshops throughout the year.

Workshops are catered to all phases of the business lifecycle. Whether you are just starting out and getting set in your business or looking at growing your established business, there is something for everyone.

The workshops are a mixture of face-to-face sessions and webinars, providing interactive learning experiences that will equip you with practical skills and knowledge you can use to your business' advantage.

Visit Council's website and search 'Small Business Education Series' to find out what's currently on offer.



Are you enjoying
The Hills Shire Council News?
Scan the QR code to let us know.



THE HILLS
Sydney's Garden Shire

Warrah Biodynamic Farm Offers Guided Tours for the Whole Family

Sydney's only certified biodynamic farm invites the community to embark on an enriching experience learning about its thriving organic practices.

Saturday 13 July from 10 am to 11:30 am, Warrah Biodynamic Farm opens its doors for an interactive guided tour led by Warrah's farm manager, Steven Tennikoff.

You will have an opportunity to discover the story behind Warrah and how it came into being.

Embark on a farm walk, exploring the various growing areas. Discover organic certification and learn about sustainable farming practices.

Pick up some useful tips for successfully growing your own sustainable veggie garden.

The guided tour is suitable for the whole family, offering a unique opportunity for adults and children to learn and connect with nature. Whether you're a seasoned gardener, a curious explorer, or simply seeking a unique weekend activity with the family, Warrah promises a fun and interactive experience for all.

Warrah Biodynamic Farm is a social enterprise dedicated to empowering people with disabilities. All revenue raised by Warrah Farm benefits Warrah's disability services.

BOOKING DETAILS:

Cost: \$20 per person. Bookings are essential

Date: Saturday, 13 July, 2024

Time: 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Location: Warrah Farm, 20 Harris Road Dural

To book: <https://warrahfarmshop.org.au/biodynamic-farm-tour-13-july-2024/>

ABOUT WARRAH

Warrah is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to supporting people living with disabilities to lead an engaging and fulfilling life. Flexible and tailored services include Supported Independent Living, Social and Community Programs, In-Home Support, a Specialist K-12 School. Warrah also operates a Biodynamic Farm, an Organic Farm Shop, and a Bakery.

Warrah is located amongst the beautiful bushland of Sydney's North-West, and fosters a holistic approach to learning and development which are inspired by the Rudolf Steiner philosophies. For more information: Petricia Augustus, paugustus@warrah.org.au 0414 550 824




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"An extremely good place to be"

Stella, aged 87



Aged care that's personal

Stella moved to Australia in the 60's from the north of England and now calls The Donald Coburn Centre home. A fully converted Aussie, Stella's favourite food is none other than our beloved meat pie but she still refuses to embrace beetroot and avoids it whenever possible. In Stella's words, "I do like being with friends and enjoy the entertainment. It's just a jolly thing to do". Stella goes on to say "I'm very grateful to be here, the staff are all very friendly, very helpful. This is an extremely good place to be." Scan the QR code to hear more of Stella's story and to meet some of the other wonderful residents.



The Donald Coburn Centre

15 Blue Gums Way, Castle Hill

1300 111 278

anglicare.org.au/tdcc



Anglicare

HAWKESBURY COUNCIL WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Litter Prevention Plan

Hawkesbury City Council has been successful in obtaining a grant to develop a forward-thinking Litter Prevention Plan. This plan will reflect Council's ongoing commitment to sustainability and aims to enhance organisational capability for effective, strategic, and sustainable litter management and prevention into the future.

The NSW Environment Protection Authority's Litter Prevention Grants Program aims to facilitate action and inspire leadership in litter prevention to ensure a healthy and thriving environment for the future. The program supports the new litter targets outlined in the NSW Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy 2041 (WASM). Additional information regarding the grant program can be found here www.epa.nsw.gov.au/working-together/grants/litter-prevention-grants-program

Additionally, the Strategy will direct the delivery of Goal 6 of Council's adopted Hawkesbury Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy, to 'Reduce Litter'. The adopted Strategy can be viewed at www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/243559/Waste-Strategy-Draft-2022-pages.pdf

As a first step in the planning process, Council is engaging with the community in the Hawkesbury Local Government Area (LGA) to gain valuable insights into litter challenges and opportunities from a community perspective.

What is litter? Litter is the small items that would fit into a plastic bag. Illegal dumping is larger items e.g., mattresses, tyres, etc. Please note that illegal dumping is OUTSIDE the scope of this survey.

Here's how to get involved!

If you are a resident in the Hawkesbury LGA, you can provide input via a short survey. It will take less than 10 minutes to complete, and responses can be anonymous if you prefer. Take the survey at www.yourhawkesbury-saysay.com.au/community-views-on-the-litter-challenges-in-hawkesbury-city-council-area

This project is an NSW Environment Protection Authority Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy initiative, funded from the Waste Levy.

We want
to know about
litter hot spots
in the Hawkesbury!





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A photograph of an elderly woman with short, curly white hair and glasses, smiling broadly. She is wearing a bright blue short-sleeved top and a small brooch. She is holding a white spray bottle with a green nozzle. The background shows a garden with green plants and a white patio umbrella.

"I love my gardens"

Carrie, aged 92

Aged care that's personal

Carrie is an absolute green thumb who brought her passion for gardening with her when she moved into The Donald Coburn Centre a few years ago. "I do love my gardens" says Carrie, "Half the things that are up there are cuttings from my own garden". A beloved member of the Anglicare community, Carrie hates to sit around doing nothing and can often be found playing with The Donald Coburn Centre's resident cat, Duchess or mingling with the staff and her friends. "They've shown me love in just about every way they can. This is my home." Scan the QR code to hear more of Carrie's story and to meet some of the other wonderful residents.



The Donald Coburn Centre

15 Blue Gums Way, Castle Hill

1300 111 278

anglicare.org.au/tdcc



Anglicare

PETS OF THE WEEK

The Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter (CAS)
is at 10 Mulgrave Rd, Mulgrave.
Call 4560 4644 for opening hours
or visit the new webpage
<https://hawkesburycas.com.au/>



AT A GLANCE

NAME: HAYLEE
BREED: American
Staffordshire Terrier
SEX: Male
AGE: 3 yrs 7 mo
PRICE: \$49



HAYLEE has an outgoing personality and a beautiful smile according to staff at the Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter. Staff say she will make a great companion for someone with time and love to give her. Haylee can sit when asked, walks well on a lead but will need to continue her basic obedience training in her new home, say staff. If you have the time, love and care Haylee deserves then please visit the shelter at any time during opening hours. Her adoption price has been reduced to \$49 and includes desexing, the first vaccination, microchipping and lifetime registration.

Hawkesbury Council's Rehoming Organisation Number is: R251000145.

AT A GLANCE

NAME: ELORA
BREED: Domestic
shorthair cat
SEX: Female
AGE: 2 yrs 3 mos
PRICE: \$49



ELORA is a sweet girl with a friendly nature cat according to staff at the Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter. Elora is looking for a loving family to give her a caring home. Staff say Elora is an affectionate and happy cat who would make a wonderful companion. If you would like to adopt Elora then please come to the shelter to meet her. Her adoption price is \$49 which includes her first vaccination, desexing, microchipping and lifetime registration.

Hawkesbury Council's Rehoming Organisation Number is: R251000145.

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- 📍 Unit 1/106 Windsor Rd,
Kellyville NSW 2155

Baulkham Hills

- ☎ (02) 9157 5557
- 📍 472 Windsor Rd,
Baulkham Hills, NSW 2153

Cat Health Awareness

Feline Fine in May and June

Got a nervous cat? Grab a complimentary calming pack prior to visit.

www.sydneyanimalhospitals.com.au

Is your cat hiding something from you?

Dental disease can often be hidden from sight, with unhealthy teeth contributing to pain and other diseases, and cats can be adept at hiding any discomfort.

If we haven't seen your cat for a while, Sydney Animal Hospitals has the purr-fect opportunity during May and June with free dental checks by our veterinary nurses, to have your cat's dental health assessed, along with reduced price dental procedures and more.

Healthy teeth and gums help ensure that our pets live a happy and comfortable life. Regular health checks with our veterinary team are important, so that we can examine your pet and discuss any dental treatment or preventative management that may be required to help keep your cat's teeth healthy.

Cats can't brush their teeth, but just like people, they are at risk of developing dental problems because bacteria and plaque accumulate on their teeth contributing to gum disease or gingivitis, which can be painful and also lead to bacteria entering the bloodstream and circulating to affect other body organs.

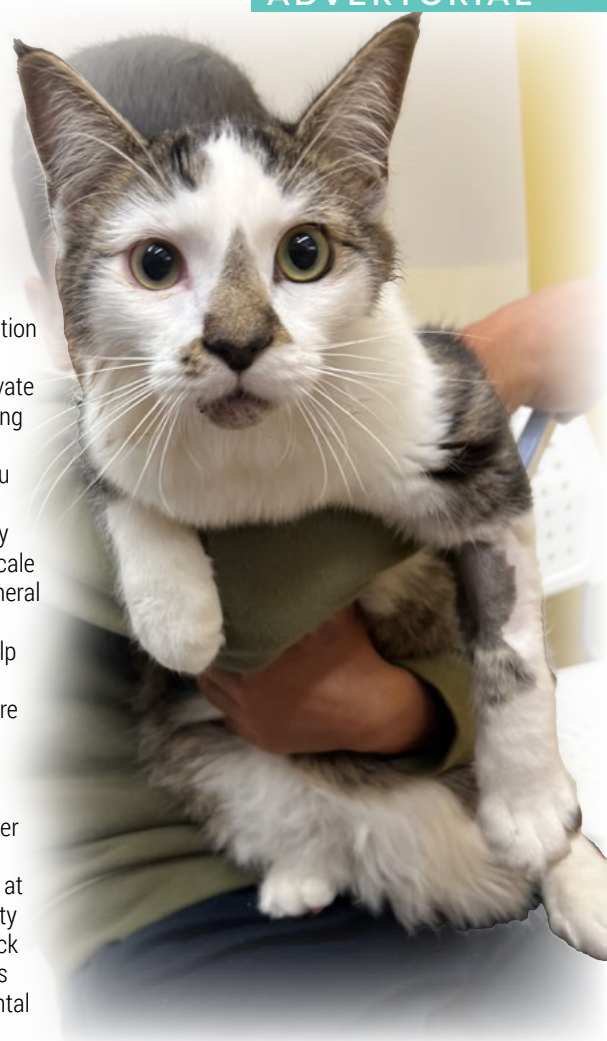
Some tell-tale signs that your cat may require a dental treatment include if they have bad breath or if they have yellow or brown tartar deposits on their teeth – as normal healthy teeth should always be white. If there is a red line along the gum margins around the teeth,

this usually indicates gingivitis -or inflammation and infection of the gums. Cats with dental disease may have difficulty eating, may salivate excessively, and can sometimes have bleeding gums.

Our veterinary team will discuss with you the appropriate treatment options available to manage your cat's dental health. This may include preventative measures or a dental scale and polish procedure performed under a general anaesthetic to clean and protect the teeth. Special dental foods are also available to help reduce the risk of dental disease in cats.

Recognising when your cat's teeth require veterinary attention, seeking advice from our veterinary team and implementing the appropriate treatment will ensure that your cat remains happy and healthy into their older years.

Cats are the focus during May and June at Sydney Animal Hospitals with the opportunity for your cat to have a free dental health check with one of our veterinary nurses – bookings essential and there is also reduced-price dental procedures. This offer is valid until the 30th June (T&C's apply)




RUFFTRACK

FUNDRAISING DINNER

Join us for an unforgettable night of hearing some inspiring stories of young people, raffles, silent auctions. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of these deserving young people.

When: Saturday 27th July 2024
Time: 6:30pm-10:30pm
Address: Riverside Oaks Golf Resort
74 O'Briens Rd, Cattai
Dress: Smart Casual

TICKETS \$130

Tickets can be purchased via our website www.rufftrack.com click on the events page
Any inquiries can be emailed through to adminsupt@rufftrack.com



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WHAT'S ON

IN THE HILLS TO HAWKESBURY



16
JUNE

Greenup Park Bushcare

by The Hills Shire Council

09:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Greenup Park, Cecil Avenue, Castle Hill

Greenup Park is located close to the centre of Castle Hill, with the front entrance along Cecil Avenue.

The group is working in Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest which is listed as critically endangered under both State and Federal legislation, at the rear of the reserve near Francis Street.

Works being undertaken in this reserve include skirting vines, removing larger weeds and maintenance weeding, as well as planting in areas of low resilience. No experience necessary. Everyone Welcome!

Platypus Bushcare

by The Hills Shire Council

09:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Connelly Way, Kellyville, 2155

Volunteers are welcome to join the maintenance activities at Cattai Creek Conservation Area Reserve, Kellyville. The activities include planting, mulching, and weeding to maintain the health of the native vegetation. The area is home to the Powerful Owl (Vulnerable) and Platypus, making it essential to maintain a healthy creek bank. No experience is necessary.

The Bush Track Bushcare Group

by The Hills Shire Council

01:00 PM to 04:00 PM

Timber Grove Reserve, Timber Grove, Glenhaven, 2156

The Bush Track Group works in Citadel Crescent Reserve within Sandstone Gully Forest along an unnamed tributary which flows into Cattai Creek in Glenhaven, removing weeds and rubbish from along the creekline. This reserve is also home to some threatened plant species. Everyone welcome! No experience necessary.

Crane Road Bushcare

by The Hills Shire Council

01:00 PM to 04:00 PM

Crane Road Reserve, 64Z Crane Road, Castle Hill, 2154

The Crane Road Bushcare Group is working in Crane Road Reserve, Castle Hill to clear weeds from along the creek-line and replant in areas of low resilience. The creekbanks have recently been remediated and replanted, and the group is maintaining previously cleared areas and replanting where required. All are welcome to join, and no prior experience is necessary.

Fred Cat Weed Warriors Bushcare

by The Hills Shire Council

01:00 PM to 04:00 PM

Fred Caterson Reserve, Gilbert Road, Castle Hill, 2154

This group works in an area of Sandstone Gully Forest along Cattai Creek. They have been removing weeds and planting in areas of low resilience, whilst maintaining the Asset Protection Zone (APZ). Everyone Welcome! No experience necessary.

19
JUNE

After School Program

by Merana Aboriginal Community Association

03:30 PM to 05:00 PM

Unit 2/20 West Market Street, Richmond

The After School Program is for kids aged 5 – 12 years to come and have fun in a culturally safe space. The program is held during school terms each Wednesday from 3:30 – 5 pm. Merana provides afternoon tea as well as different fun activities and games for the kids each week. It is also a great opportunity for the kids to meet other kids within the community and expand their understanding and knowledge.

For contact us admin@merana.org.au or call on 02 4588-5144

14
JUNE

Urban Gardens – Love Food, Hate Waste

by The Hills Shire Council

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Castle Hill Library, 14 Pennant Street, Castle Hill,

"Learn how to make sustainable food choices to save time and money. Discover the differences between organic, natural, ethical, and fair trade products. Get inspired to grow and use herbs at home with herbal tea and homemade pesto recipes included!"

15
JUNE

Hills Relay For Life – High Tea

02:00 PM to 04:30 PM

Rydges Norwest, 1 Columbia Ct, Norwest

The Hills Relay For Life is hosting a High Tea fundraiser. Enjoy an afternoon of savories, scones, sweets, and tea while supporting the fight against cancer.

For tickets please email Robin at techsec@iprimus.com.au or message Bev on 0451 519 088 \$75 includes bubbles, lucky door ticket and High Tea.

Hills Shire Symphony Orchestra Presents 'Stunning Sibelius'

07:30 PM to 10:00 PM

Hills Grammar School, 43 Kenthurst Rd, Kenthurst, 2156

The Hills Shire Symphony Orchestra proudly presents its second concert of 2024 – Stunning Sibelius!

Come along and be amazed by the musical skills of highly esteemed soloist Sunny Roh performing Sibelius Violin Concerto in D Minor.

Crestwood Bushcare

by The Hills Shire Council

09:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Crestwood Reserve, Warumbui Avenue, Baulkham Hills

The Crestwood Bushcare Group work along Toongabbie Creek in Sophia Doyle Reserve, Baulkham Hills within a remnant of Critically Endangered Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest.

This group is making its way along the creek removing weeds, allowing for native regeneration.

Everyone welcome. No experience necessary!

Powerhouse Family Day

by Museums Discovery Centre

10:00 AM to 03:00 PM

Museums Discovery Centre, 172 Showground Road, Castle Hill,

Powerhouse Castle Hill and the Community Migrant Resource Centre present a free day of music and dance performances, workshops, tours, drop-in activities and fun for people of all ages, inspired by the local community.



20
JUNE

Bead and Handcraft Workshops

by North West Community Services Inc

10:30 AM to 12:30 PM

9 Park Street, Riverstone NSW 2765

Bead & handcraft workshop session starts soon 10:30 at our Youth Centre! Come join us for a fun and creative time. Limited Spots – Call 9627 3622 or email hgale@nwcs.org.au to register.

21
JUNE

CraftAlive

June 21, 2024, 09:30 AM to

June 23, 2024, 04:00 PM

Hawkesbury Showgrounds

CraftAlive is a hands-on event. A chance to learn from world class specialists with interactive classes on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Please note, entry tickets are not day specific. Class bookings (released 6 weeks prior) are day and time specific. We recommend booking ahead to secure your spot.

23
JUNE

Castle Hill Heritage Park Bushcare

by The Hills Shire Council

09:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Castle Hill Heritage Park Reserve, 22Z Heritage Park Drive, Castle Hill, 2154

The Castle Hill Heritage Park Bushcare Group works in Castle Hill Heritage Park, Castle Hill.

Castle Hill Heritage Park is approximately 21ha in size, in a west facing valley. It is the location of the Third Convict Farm and Asylum.

This park contains Critically Endangered Blue Gum High Forest which The Hills Shire Council has an ongoing commitment towards rehabilitating. Everyone is welcome. No experience necessary.

Eric Mobbs Bushcare

by The Hills Shire Council

10:00 AM to 01:00 PM

Eric Mobbs Reserve, 242Z Excelsior Avenue, Castle Hill

The Eric Mobbs Bushcare Group works in Eric Mobbs Reserve, Castle Hill at the end of Excelsior Avenue. The group focuses on the area around the ovals leading to the creek, which is known for its walking tracks. The Powerful Owl, a vulnerable species, nests in the reserve. Anyone can join the group without prior experience.

The Hills UPmarket

by The Hills UPmarket

09:00 AM to 02:00 PM

Castle Hill Showground, De Clambe Drive, Castle Hill

A boutique local event where friends and family can catch up, have a coffee, grab a bite to eat, shop and relax in a local environment.

We have a selection of 60+ quality stalls with a focus on making the event one that is successful and fun for both stallholder and visitor. We would love you to come and join us.

Parking is FREE and we are a dog-friendly event.

We have joined forces with our friends from Positive Vibes Foundation to help spread the word about mental health. Help raise awareness and start the conversation.

WALKING BASKETBALL



COME & TRY SESSION | 25 JUNE | 10 - 11AM | HILLS BASKETBALL STADIUM

25
JUNE

Walking Basketball

by Hills Hornets Basketball Association

10:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Hills Basketball Stadium, Fred Caterson Reserve, Caterson Drive, Castle Hill

Try Walking Basketball – a sport for all ages, genders, and abilities. It's low-impact, involves light exercise and socializing. No running or jumping, perfect for older players or those returning from injury. No prerequisites required. FREE 'come and try' session open to everyone.

Toddler Tuesdays

by Grove Square - The Hills

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

(Near Red Dollar) 375-383 Windsor Rd, Baulkham Hills

Free entertainment for the littlies and free coffee for accompanying parents/guardians*

Bookings not required. Suitable for children aged 2 years old and over. Parents/guardians must be present and supervise children at all times.

Seniors Fitness Class

by North West Community Services Inc

11:30 AM

Seniors Hall, Sam Lane Complex, 9 Park Street Riverstone

Seniors' exercise classes are back. Join us for Seniors Fitness every Tuesday at 11:30 am! For individuals aged 65 and above. Cost: \$5. Limited spaces available – please register at 9627 3622 or email hgale@nwcs.org.au.



26
JUNE

Friendly Friendship Bingo

by North West Community Services Inc

10:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Community Hall, 9 Park Street Riverstone

Join the fun every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month! Register by email to rkhan@nwcs.org.au or call 9627 3622

The Hills Wildlife Sanctuary team of dedicated volunteers



DURAL'S BEST KEPT SECRET: The Hills Wildlife Sanctuary

BY SOPHIE POREDOS

In the heart of Dural you'll find a hidden paradise where wildlife conservationists Nat and Ben, along with their team of dedicated volunteers, rescue and rehabilitate injured animals.

The Hills Wildlife Sanctuary offers a 35-acre natural site with sprawling bushland, tucked away down Carters Road. Inside the big iron gates is a world-class rehabilitation facility for Australian wildlife, providing a home for rescued emus, dingoes and native birds. Established in 1977 by Marjorie Wilson, it was previously known as the Kangaroo Protection Co-operative and has been protecting injured wildlife since its inception. Their passionate team of over 20 volunteers includes live-in Caretaker, Olivia Gillespie, professional dog trainer, Nat Conway, and resident wildlife vet, Dr Audrey Shen.

The backdrop of Berowra Valley National Park is phenomenal, as are their countless animals, each with varying degrees of personality. Upon arrival, I was greeted by some friendly surrendered dingoes, who were enjoying their new natural enclosure. Whilst they go out for walks 3-4 times

a week, it was clear they were very excited to see some new faces. Some other new friendly animals included three red-tailed black cockatoos, a threatened species of bird, though they can be spotted around the Hills. Casper, their leucistic kookaburra, was particularly vibrant as he proudly showed off his white plumage despite his reduced vision. The birds are interactive and can rest on people's arms - though I've been warned to watch shoelaces around Casper!

Sanctuary manager and Dural local Ben Dessen, along with his brother Sam and a team of passionate volunteers have transformed the site over the past 10 years. Ben also has extensive experience in wildlife rescue and rehabilitation. However, it was the 2019 and 2020 Black Summer Bush Fires that was the real catalyst for the project, as the community were desperate to find a sanctuary for injured animals.

Currently, there is only one dedicated wildlife hospital in the Greater Sydney region, creating an increased demand for volunteer services such as WIRES. Ben and his team have been working alongside local MPs and are appealing to the State government to build a world-class wildlife hospital that would remedy the lack of medical care for injured wildlife in Sydney. He shared why this site would be the perfect opportunity to care for animals and his future ambitions:

"We have an amazing 35 acres of land, so close to Sydney which is so unique.

We hope to create a centralised conservation and education hub, to help up-skill and train wildlife carers and veterinarians and support rehabilitation groups across NSW. We also hope to establish an emergency



Ben and Nat with their new rescue black cockatoo, Byron.

response team to support wildlife in times of crisis, which could be deployed during future natural disasters such as bushfires and floods."

North Rocks local Nat Conway has been volunteering at the Hills Wildlife Sanctuary for a number of years, falling in love with animals in her role as a dog behaviourist: "We want the Hills community to know that there is a facility here that is doing this amazing rescue and rehabilitation work for native wildlife. We only need one person to read this article and go 'Wow! I would love to donate or sponsor a particular project at the sanctuary!', because it is currently 100% volunteer run and funded entirely by our own fundraising initiatives."

The Education Centre on site also hosts a range of reptiles, invertebrates and amphibians, with my eyes being drawn to the tiniest Green Tree frogs. The facilities are used to train wildlife carers, as well as vets and vet nurses. The Hills Wildlife Sanctuary are currently seeking sponsorship to build an outdoor covered education space and amphitheatre. They will also begin construction shortly of a specialised wombat, echidna and bandicoot rehabilitation enclosure, which has generously been funded by Linda Meumann, the owner of Calabash Kennels in Arcadia. Linda was so impressed by the work of the sanctuary after handing in an injured Tawny Frogmouth, that she offered to support their work.

The Hills Wildlife Sanctuary is actively seeking corporate and philanthropic partners, to help continue building the vision and assisting native wildlife. The sanctuary is always in need of support from local skilled tradespeople, including carpenters, electricians, plumbers, landscapers and arborists. You can contact Ben at ben@hillswildlifesanctuary.org for more information or to offer your services to this very worthy cause.

You can follow the sanctuary's exciting progress, make a donation and meet some of the furry and feathery residents via the Hills Wildlife Sanctuary website and social media pages: www.hillswildlifesanctuary.org



The newly built dingo enclosure and its furry residents alongside volunteers

ART DEMONSTRATION – SATURDAY 6TH JULY 1.30PM

Vivienne McDonald: Still life in oils or acrylics

“Simplify a Still Life” Alla Prima (Wet on Wet)

A designer for decades, Vivienne now creates art for the sheer joy that drawing and painting bring to the soul.

Vivienne’s art in oils and watercolours engages you in rich landscapes or vibrant still lifes. Whether meticulously designed vignettes or the haphazard coffee table mess, subjects are everywhere. Decide what stays in then get it down quickly to create inspired still life paintings!

Visitors are welcome to join with the Castle Hill Art Society at Castle Glen Community Centre, 157 Ridgescrop Drive, Castle Hill. Enquiries 9899 3179 www.castlehillartsociety.org.au



ALIVE WITH CULTURE 2

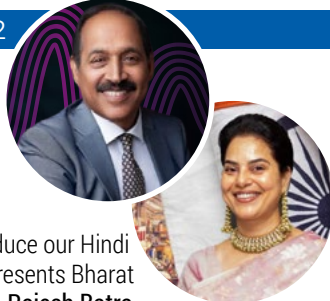
HINDI SHOWS

BY LEONIE DIXON

In keeping with our theme, let me introduce our Hindi presenters. There’s **Aparna Vats** who presents Bharat Dhvani on Sunday evenings 5-7pm and **Rajesh Batra** whose show is called Mirchiwala and is on every Thursday 8-10pm. They have quite a different emphasis so if you like more talking and interviews Bharat Dhvani is your show, but for a mixture of different types of Indian music tune in to Mirchiwala.

For engaging long-form conversations with notable figures tune in to Aparna. She explores diverse topics including politics, culture, entertainment, philosophy, lifestyle, current affairs and history. Enjoy a captivating listening experience. Some of the biggest names/speakers in the world join this program with a starting point of 2.5 million followers. To date they have included world renowned musicians, actors, directors, producers, theatre professionals, visiting politicians and internationally acclaimed authors and poets. If you’re wondering what Bharat Dhvani means Bha + rat = illumination of knowledge + constantly in search of and Dhvani - Sound/ reverberations. It’s a hard decision I know, so maybe you need to give both a try.

Rajesh has been broadcasting at Alive for 19 years and enjoys a big listenership of regular listeners from as far away as Bombay and Fiji. He has also volunteered for 20 years at The First Hindu Temple of Australia (Sri Mandir), a beautiful temple in Auburn. Rajesh runs a Bollywood Karaoke Club with over 100 members where people enjoy sing-along evenings. His show is divided into 4 segments so he can provide for the latest Bollywood hits from new movies; a retro segment of 70-90s songs; traditional, classical and sometimes religious Indian songs and the last segment is for all the requests his audience makes. He really engages with his listeners.



Alive 90.5FM is a leading community radio station serving the **Hills, Parramatta** and **Cumberland** Districts since 1992.

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MEMBER FOR HAWKESBURY

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Looking After Your Own Backyard

Whilst ambitious housing targets by the NSW Minns Labor Government have committed to delivering 377,000 homes across New South Wales by 2029, their first milestone to reach a target of 75,000 new homes in 2024, has failed miserably.

It comes as no surprise that NSW is in desperate need of housing to offer the safety, security and support that individuals and families deserve, particularly with the cost-of-living crisis looming over our heads.

As well intended as the Government might be, the new planning laws are housing targets without a plan. Targets don't mean anything unless they are financially and logically feasible to build. This Government is crippling financial feasibility with its taxes and charges. We need to ramp up housing supply with a credible housing plan, not one that doesn't consult with local councils to tap in on the experience they have in providing well considered open space, adequate parking, sustainable and sufficient designs and ensuring the ambience and surrounds are not denigrated.

New builds should complement the current streetscape in a suburb. The Minns Labor Government's housing plans are not inviting and

welcoming. Councils help create a community that people want to belong to. These new housing plans will rob a community of space and may create 'ghettos'.

Why aren't we creating housing incentives that encourage empty nesters to downsize without financial penalty? Why should we funnel first homes owners into only buying apartments when they should be given a choice of an affordable house and land package – somewhere with a backyard with room for families to grow, to kick a ball, play with their children and roll around on the lawn? Why should first home buyers have to compete with an overworked migration system? We should be looking after the new citizens and locally born residents who have already come to this country, rather than bringing more competition into the housing market. These residents should be our priority. Let's accommodate those already living in this country.

If you want to continue this conversation with me, feel free to visit my website <https://robypreston.com.au/>, email me at hawkesbury@parliament.nsw.gov.au or call me on (02) 4578 0300.

Wesley Uniting Church Candlelight Vigil

On May 31, 2024 the Wesley Uniting Church in Castle Hill hosted a Candlelight Vigil, marking the conclusion of a series of Domestic and Family Violence events in The Hills for Domestic and Family Violence Awareness Month.

A safe, quiet space was provided for members of the community to come together to reflect and to light a candle in remembrance, honouring those we have lost, those who have suffered, and those who continue to endure the impacts of domestic and family violence.

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics in 2023, the prevalence of domestic and family violence remains alarmingly high, with 1 in 4 women (27%) and 1 in 8 men (12%) experiencing violence from an intimate partner or family member since the age of 15. These sobering

statistics highlight the urgent need for communities across New South Wales and Australia to unite in raising awareness and working towards ending domestic and family violence.

Special thanks to Bryan and Jan Mullan and Reverend Carmel Ieraci for their dedication in hosting this event and creating a space for remembrance and reflection. Together, let us continue to strive for a future free from violence, where every individual can live in safety and dignity.




MARK HODGES MP
MEMBER FOR CASTLE HILL

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Better, Fairer Tax Cuts from July 1

In the lead up to July 1, I encourage everyone to take a look at their payslip and make a note of how much take-home pay they receive.

That's because from July 1, every single taxpayer in the Hawkesbury will receive a tax cut, meaning they will get to keep more of what they earn.

Taking pressure off families and households is the Albanese Government's number one priority and we made cost of living relief a key focus in our 2024 Budget.

A primary school teacher in Richmond on \$80,000 will get a tax cut of \$1,679. An electrician from Wilberforce on \$110,000 will get a tax cut of \$2,429. A nurse from Windsor on \$76,000 will get a tax cut of \$1,579.

We're also making things easier for households in the Hawkesbury through the new energy rebate. Every household will receive \$300 off their electricity bill, and \$325 for every eligible Hawkesbury small business. It's another way we can provide some relief, across every home.

And then there's the ways we're making it easier for businesses or all sizes to train up the next generation of workers.

For instance, for priority construction skills we've increased the support payments to apprentices to \$5000, for another 12 months. Employers of these apprentices will receive a \$5,000 hiring incentive, up from \$4,000. Plus, we will provide access to \$10,000 incentive payments to support our target of 10,000 new energy apprentices.

The Government will also invest \$88 million to deliver 20,000 new fee-free TAFE places, including pre-apprenticeships in courses relevant to the construction sector, as well as in childcare, aged care and many other courses.

For vocational and uni students, there's a cut to student debt, to make up for some of the big increases students saw last year and this year because of high inflation.

And Hawkesbury teaching, social work and nursing students will soon have their mandatory paid prac work supported by a payment of around \$315 a week.

These are just a few of the ways we're easing the cost of living, tackling inflation and growing our economy.

Transport Infrastructure

I am incredibly proud to be part of a government that listens and takes decisive action, especially in building infrastructure in growth areas. As the member for Riverstone, I've hosted various Ministers on tours of the electorate.

Starting from my office in Stanhope Gardens, we travel through the serene suburbia of The Ponds, a legacy of the last Labor Government. However, this tranquillity is disrupted as we turn onto Schofields Road towards the Tallawong metro platforms.

Cudgegong Road reveals the planning failures of the former Liberal Government. Cars overflow onto every available surface, and commuters park wherever they can. High-density housing dominates what was once farmland, highlighting the previous Government's failure to foresee the negative impact inadequate planning would have on surrounding suburbs, roads, and residents. Each metro station—Tallawong, Rouse Hill, Kellyville—compounds the daily struggle as car parks fill to capacity early each morning, transforming roads into barely moving masses of vehicles. This is the daily purgatory faced by desperate commuters.

The North West Growth Area was always destined for substantial expansion, with projections indicating the largest population growth in the state. Despite this, the previous Government's over-reliance on private

development and its failure to deliver adequate public infrastructure are glaring examples of short-sightedness. Sydney Metro North West serves established suburbs effectively but falls 2.7 kilometers short of connecting to the T1 line in Schofields. This gap limits access for people trying to catch the T1 from the Hawkesbury to the metro, forcing them to drive.

At Riverstone station, the cancellation of the rail duplication has left a single line, restricting train services to a meagre 30-minute interval during peak hours. The absence of express services means residents increasingly opt for Tallawong station's faster metro service, further overwhelming its car parking facilities. The previous Government failed to deliver a promised multi-level car park, leaving commuters with 500 fewer spaces than needed.

While local buses help, they only address part of the problem. Residents from neighboring suburbs travel long distances to find employment, congesting local roads. The Northwest Growth Area was designed with a comprehensive strategy to minimize long commutes. However, with most growth area projects rezoned and the population booming, there is a severe lack of supporting infrastructure.

Twelve years of failure cannot be undone in a single year. The Minns Labor Government has allocated significant funds to the Riverstone

The Minns Labor Government is

DELIVERING in the NORTH WEST

Scan for updates!

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WARREN KIRBY MP
STATE MEMBER FOR RIVERSTONE

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AUTHORISED BY WARREN KIRBY MP, SHOP 20 STANHOPE VILLAGE, 2 SENTRY DRIVE, STANHOPE GARDENS NSW 2768. FUNDED USING PARLIAMENTARY ENTITLEMENTS

electorate to improve infrastructure, and I will continue to advocate for more. Adequate local employment is the heart of a livable city—projects like the Riverstone West Precinct and Riverstone Town Centre are crucial to alleviating current issues. By establishing local employment hubs and robust housing, we can secure a better future for Riverstone families. We can fix it, but we must remember the previous Government's mistakes and ensure they are never repeated.

Kerrye Katz says her OAM is for her family and club

One of Australia's most experienced and respected judo coaches, Kerrye Katz, has been awarded a Medal of the Order (OAM) on the King's Birthday Honour List this year. The 63-year-old Hills local thrives in coaching roles – she is the Australian under 18 coach, in addition to training special needs children, four-year-olds and 9-15 age groups at her Budokan Judo Club.

Kerrye is a very successful judoka, having represented Australia at the 1988 Seoul Olympics, World and Oceanic championships, and is a winner of many national, state and Masters titles over the years. Kerrye is one part of a highly-successful judo coaching couple with her husband Rob, her former Olympic coach. They run the phenomenally-successful Budokan Judo Club based in Castle Hills, with their two sons, Nathan and Josh, who are also Olympians.

"This is a big and amazing honour for me, it's very special," Kerry told *Hills to Hawkesbury Community News*. "I was absolutely surprised at being informed of the award and I feel it is not just for me but also for my husband Rob, without whom I won't be the person I am. This award is also for my family and the judo club because everyone has helped us achieve the success we have.

"The Budokan Judo Club provides fantastic support and we are one big family with great role models across all the age groups.

"This weekend has been extra special for us because on top of my honour, Rob and I got our sixth dan black belts while my second son Josh was selected for the Paris Olympics. In addition, the club has done very well at the Nationals in Queensland, so it's been a superb weekend for us."

Kerrye was selected as a shadow coach at the 2000 Sydney Olympics but elected a role as Field-of-play Supervisor for SOCOG instead. She lets her judo and coaching do the talking.

The mother of two captured gold medals in the Senior National championships over 10 different years between 1980 and 1993. She used to coach the NSW teams but now concentrates on her national, club and school coaching roles – she is also a special needs teacher at The Ponds School.

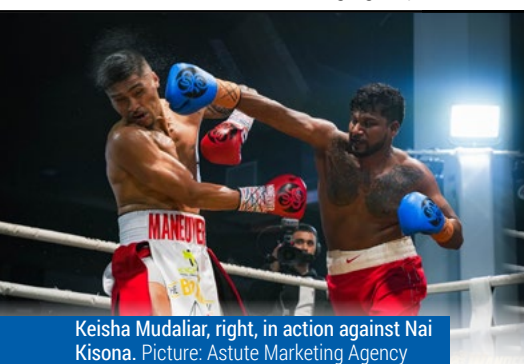
Kerrye said her sons Nathan and Josh have always been involved in judo and everyone supports each other. "Rob coached me at the Seoul Olympics and my sons also know how to cope (at the highest level)," Kerrye said. "I feel the others in our club also know what they can achieve by working hard.

"I would like to thank our club vice president Scott Young, who I believe nominated me, Rob, Nathan and Josh, for their support and help. My family is called Team Katz because we are always there for each other."

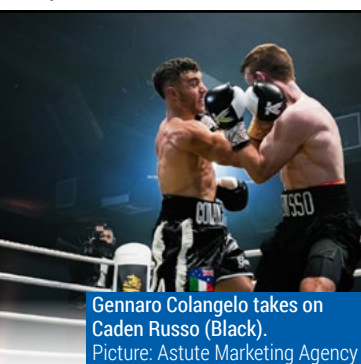
Kerrye, Josh, Rob and Nathan from the Highly-Successful Katz Team.



Kerrye Katz OAM, with husband Rob



Keisha Mudaliar, right, in action against Nai Kisona. Picture: Astute Marketing Agency



Gennaro Colangelo takes on Caden Russo (Black). Picture: Astute Marketing Agency



New Women's Oceania Champion Sara Jalonon with promoter Ricky Colosimo. Picture: Astute Marketing Agency

EXCITING BOXING LIGHTS UP THE HILLS

More than 1000 fans packed Bella Vista Hotel as some of the best amateur and female professional boxers slugged it out for titles in the biggest boxing night in the Hills.

Wanderer Promotions could not have hoped for a more raucous venue or higher quality boxing for their Warehouse Rumble as several up and coming fighters vied for state and national honour on the same card as the women's WBA Oceania Super Featherweight bout.

NSW's Sara Jalonon is the new WBA Oceania champion after defeating Jaki Toth in the headline fight. Jalonon won in a split decision in the thrilling 10-round contest. In some of the other high-profile bouts, Nae Kisona

defeated Keisha Mudaliar while Jayden Buan, Gennaro Colangelo, Alex Naman and Manuer Matet also emerged with their reputations enhanced.

Wanderer Promotions founder and promoter Ricky Colosimo said the competition was fierce and entertaining, with the fans lapping it up. A former highly regarded amateur fighter himself, Colosimo said the first ever Warehouse Rumble is just the start of what he plans to be some of NSW and Australia's best boxing competitions. The boxing event featured entertainment in true show biz fashion, heralding a new era in boxing in the Hills and across NSW.

"This was the first step in a much larger vision to make boxing a top tier sport

in Australia," Colosimo told the Hills to Hawkesbury Community News. "I want to show the transformative power boxing has on young men and women and change negative perceptions of it as it really does change lives for the better.

"We had more than 1000 people at the event & the energy & atmosphere was electric while the fights delivered. We are building up now to an even bigger event at our next show on August 1.

"We are looking forward to what is in store for Wanderer Promotions - everyone in the boxing industry is starting to take notice. It won't be long before everyone in Australia is taking notice."

KYLIE SHANNON



ISABELLA SCIBERRAS



Shannon, Sciberras in scintillating form

Kylie Shannon rocketed into the top ranks of the goalscoring list with six goals against Inter Lions FC in a rollicking 9-0 demolition in their FNSW League One Women's first grade game on Sunday.

Shannon has been one of the top scorers for the Hills this season but took her game to another level with her magnificent shooting skills as her side cemented their place at the top of the standings. She has now scored 19 goals from 17 matches.

Isabella Sciberras, another player who nets goals throughout the year, started the rout in the 12th minute before the Shannon blitz. In between her goals, Mao Ikeda scored from the penalty spot and Brooke Hastie got another in the first half as the Hills sped to a 5-0 advantage.

The goals harvest had started in their previous match against South East Phoenix, with eight goals being slammed in, with six in the first session. Isabella Sciberras was on a mission, scoring the first four goals in a remarkable 25-minute patch where she was unstoppable.

Kaylie Shannon, Bella Donaldson, Chisato Tokoro and Portia Berios rounded off the rout. It will be amazing if the Hills can continue their goal scoring magic against Sutherland Strikers in their 16th round match on Saturday, June 16 at 3.30pm.

Hills United score important Win

NPL NSW Men's novices, Hills United FC have shaken up the competition with a couple of wins after a tough start to their first season. They showed they are on the learning curve by dispatching seasoned sided Central Coast Mariners 2-0 in their 18th round game after their sixth win of the season. Goals from Cameron Philip in the ninth minute and Nicolai Muller in the 50th minute put paid to the Mariners who anchor the table.

The victory sets up an intriguing second half of the competition for Hills United who, along with their women's first grade team, are showing the rest of NSW just how much the game has improved in The Hills District over the past few years.

For Hills United men's coach Luke Casserly, the victory could be just the right tonic the club needs at this moment. "That was a really important win for us," Casserly said. "Our target second half of the season is to do better, improve on the first half, get more points."

"These were three points that we felt that we dropped in the first round. Really pleased for the boys cause they worked hard and got an important three points."

Hills's outstanding custodian and the NPL Men's goalkeeper of the month Ryan Wood had a quiet night by his own standards, though he came up trumps in the tail end of the game to thwart the opposition's desperate attempt to get back into the match. Hills United host Sydney United 58 on Saturday, June 15, at 7pm.

CORPORATE KICK-OFF LUNCH LEAGUE COMP

Football NSW is launching the brand new 'Corporate Kick-Off' lunch league competition for local businesses and workers.

Held at Valentine Sports Park, the Home of Football in NSW, the small-sided football competition provides a fun, social opportunity to get outdoors and get fit alongside your colleagues.

- There will be 25 minute games, 1 game per week
- 7v7 on small-sized fields (teams of up to 12 players including substitutes)
- Standard league season (play each team once) followed by semi finals + grand final
- Matches will be played between 12pm and 2pm (exact timings to be determined following EOI process)
- Entry is not limited to employees (sign up family members, friends etc.) but can only represent the one team in a competition.

Take advantage of the world-class fields, change rooms and amenities, alongside our on-site café for a post-match feed.

Register your interest below to ensure your team does not miss out on Season 1!

For further information, contact Ryan Mettenbrink: ryanm@footballnsw.com or 02 8814 4473

Football NSW | VALENTINE SPORTS PARK

CORPORATE KICK-OFF

SMALL-SIDED LUNCH LEAGUE FOOTBALL

Valentine Sports Park:
'The Home of Football in NSW'
235 - 257 Meurants Lane, Glenwood

- FIFA-certified venue
- World-class pitches and changerooms
- Café on site
- Discounted fee for registered football players

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST TODAY!

www.valentinesportspark.com.au/corporate-kick-off

Shows my parents and myself at dinner with me very hard to see sitting between my older sister and another passenger



A TALE OF *Two Migrants* (PART 2)

As mentioned in the last issue of this magazine, this is a continuation of a story of two migrants, both of whom are residents of the Hills District, who shared much in common back in the 1950s.

Continuing Hilary's story of her travelling to Australia on the "Fairsea" in 1958, and her early days in Australia, her story continues on after boarding the ship to emigrate to Australia only to find that all of the family's belongings had been lost in a fire whilst in storage.

Here is the remainder of her experiences in her own words.

"Word soon got around that there was a small family needing clothes. The generosity of people was most humbling, clothes came from everywhere. Even immigrants were expected to "dress" for dinner, so taffeta dresses were given to my mother and dad had very smart suits, all on loan. When we reached Aden, my mother bought a bolt of calico fabric with colourful Arabic children on it and sewed, by hand, a skirt and top.

I loved the sea voyage and participated in the "Crossing the Line" ceremony being one of King Neptune's servants! I am sure the trip was not as happy for my parents. It appeared we were the only family on board who only had 2 suitcases and no luggage in the hold!!

When we arrived in Sydney, we had the good fortune to be staying with distant relatives in Enfield.

I remember going down to the docks at Pyrmont as each new ship docked, my father searching for any sign that our luggage may have been delayed and put on another ship, but to no avail.

Finally we were notified that our luggage had been in the fire. In those days insurance was not like it is today and so the compensation was minimal, the biggest loss was photographs, mementos and of course my bike!!! Both my parents picked themselves up and got jobs within days of arriving. Mum worked for an engineering company in Burwood, a remark was made to her "Not another Bloody POM"!!! My father got a job for, what was called back then, The Spastic Centre at Mosman and was given the luxury of a company car. He used to have to chaperone "Miss Australia" to various functions, and so, his car had that title on the roof, There was many a disappointed face when he used to drive me to school with that sign on top!!!! They managed to buy a house and land package at Bass Hill, all the furniture was on time payment, mum made all the curtains, and we were extremely happy. Unfortunately we were only in the country 7 years when my father died of a massive heart attack. However what he and my mother achieved in that 7 years would never have happened if we had disembarked and returned to the life they knew, my mother, God bless her, made the best decision and never regretted it."

Ivor's note : As this article is titled "A Tale of Two Migrants". I thought I had better mention that the second migrant who travelled on the "Fairsea" to Australia at the same age as Hilary, and in the same year (1958), but on a later voyage, was myself. As Hilary mentioned in the last issue of this publication, male and female passengers were segregated. I shared a cabin with my father and a number of other men whilst my mother and two sisters shared a cabin with another woman and her daughter. My parents became lifelong friends with this family whilst on board and both families settled in Sydney. As my father was sponsored as a migrant by the Anglican Church we disembarked from the "Fairsea" in Melbourne on the 8th December having left Southampton on the 4th November. (the day before Guy Fawkes Day) I remember looking out at night whilst we were travelling through the Bay of Biscay hoping to see the fireworks in England. As being only 11 years of age at the time I had no idea that we had travelled too far out at sea to be able to view the fireworks. We only lived in Melbourne for a few months, during a heatwave, and next door to an abattoir with the resultant flies. So, during the following February, we moved to Cabramatta where my mother and my older sister found work and my father found employment as a welder. I then spent the rest of my childhood and formative years in the Cabramatta area until I met Maree and we moved to Baulkham Hills around 40 years ago.



AS WE WERE

PHOTOS FROM THE PAST

COLLECTION COMPILED BY
IVOR JONES SHOWING LIFE IN
THE HILLS AND HAWKESBURY
AREA DURING PAST DECADES.



CREDIT in FLIKR photos

COMMUNITY groups

2nd Castle Hill Rovers

📞 www.gwsrovers.com.au

Annangrove Environment Centre

📞 02 9654 3571 (Thurs) | 02 9843 0533 (Wed-Fri)
✉️ gnanlan@thehills.nsw.gov.au

Arcadian Quilters

📍 Meet in Galston Community Health Centre 1st and 3rd Wed mornings, evening group 2nd and 4th Mon. New members welcome
👤 Carole | 9894 7749

Baulkham Hills Probus

📍 Meets 1st Thurs each month 1.30pm Baulkham Hills Sports Club, 11 Renown Rd Visitors welcome. Activities every Thurs.
👤 Peter | 0407 013 411
✉️ probus56830@gmail.com

Bonsai Society of Australia

📍 Club meetings 1st Tues of the month 7.30pm; West Pennant Hills Community Centre, 42 Hill rd West Pennant Hills.
👤 Ingrid | 0409 963 438

Castle Hill Art Society

📍 Art practice for artists of all ages, either in groups or classes for adults and children. Monthly demonstrations and workshops by well-known artists. Members can participate in exhibitions during the year.
📞 9899 3179 (ans. machine)
🌐 www.castlehillartsociety.org.au

Castle Hill Senior Citizens Club Inc.,

📍 Anyone over 55 welcome to come and play carpet bowls, cards and rummikub. Cnr of McMullen Ave. and Old Northern Road, Castle Hill (opp. new Metro station) with parking at the rear.
📞 9680 3958 ✉️ castlehillseniors@gmail.com

Combined Probus Club of Cherrybrook

📍 We are a mixed gender club of over 170 retirees and semi retirees. Meetings on 1st Thurs of each month at the Cherrybrook Community & Cultural Centre.
👤 Ross | 0411 104 863
✉️ rossfitzpatrick@icloud.com
🌐 www.probusouthpacific.org/microsites/cherrybrook/Welcome

Computer Pals for Seniors – The Hills

📍 A non-profit club run by volunteers dedicated to providing low-cost tuition for Seniors in a friendly atmosphere, enabling them to stay safe online & become proficient in the many facets of computing.
👤 Colin Wright | 0479 137 131 ✉️ cphills.org.au

Cumberland Bird Observers Club

📍 The Club conducts 3 outings a month to observe birds in their natural environment. General meetings are held at Castle Hill on the 3rd Tues of the month. New members are always welcome.
👤 Peter | 0412 770 757 or Cathy 9809 5668
🌐 www.cboc.org.au

CWA of NSW – Galston Branch

📍 Meets 2nd Wed each month at the Galston Community Health Centre, cnr The Glade and 17 Arcadia Rd, Galston. 10am followed by business meeting and BYO lunch. Craft day 4th Wed each month. Visitors welcome.
👤 Jann | 0439 222 217 or Patricia | 0412 948 787

CWA of NSW – Castle Hill Branch

📍 Holds its monthly meeting every 2nd Tuesday at the CWA Hall, 2 Annangrove Road, Kenthurst (off Angus Road) from 10am. We also hold our Craft mornings for members on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month from 10 to 12.
👤 Maureen | 0411 724 925

CWA of NSW – Toongabbie Branch.

📍 Monthly meetings held 1st Tues of the month at Toongabbie Girl Guide Hall in Junia Avenue Toongabbie from 10am. We also hold craft mornings for members on 1st and 3rd Tues of the month from 10-12.
✉️ ToongabbieCWA@gmail.com

Dural and District Prostate Cancer Support Grp

📍 We meet on the 3rd Mon of every month 7:00pm for 7:15pm at the Blue Gum Centre, Glenhaven Green, 607 Old Northern Road, Glenhaven
👤 Graham | 8677 7896 or 042421062

Dural Country Club Bowls

📞 04 2131 5074

Dural Men's Shed

📞 04 0247 8498 🌐 www.duralmensshed.org

East Kurrajong School of Arts

📍 1st Tues each month 10am to 1pm. Bring along any sort of craft activity you're interested in, bring pencil/s or brushes to practice your drawing or painting with Ruth, browse the library for a book to read or simply just relax, have a cuppa and enjoy a chat from 10am to 1pm. Gold coin donation for morning tea.
👤 Ann | 02 4576 5031

Embroiderers' Guild NSW Inc Hawkesbury Grp

📍 For anyone who loves to stitch or would love to learn. Meetings: 3rd Tues 10am-2pm, 4th Tues 6-10pm Stan Stevens Studio, Deerubbin Centre 300 George St. Windsor (Windsor Library level). Guests always welcome.
👤 Catherine Delaney | 0413340049
✉️ cdelaney1@vtown.com.au

Friends of Hills Library

📍 Meets 2nd Thursday of the month at Castle Hill Library. New members welcome.
👤 Lesley Nelson, President - 0478 000 925

Girl Guides Australia

📍 Great programs for girls 6-18. They meet once a week in groups relevant to their age run by trained Leaders and Unit Helpers.
👤 Margo | 0417 657 433.

Glenhaven Probus Club Inc

📍 Meets 10 am on 2nd Tuesday of each month at Castle Hill Bowling Club.
✉️ secretary.glenhaven.probus@gmail.com

Glenwood Men's Shed

👤 Jim | 0438 701 275

Hawkesbury Artists & Artisans Trail

📞 02 4567 7400 🌐 www.haat.com.au
✉️ Leanne@mellowcrest.com

Hawkesbury Camera Club

📍 Club meets at 7.30pm on the first 3 Wed of the mo at the Richmond Club, Francis Street, Richmond. Facebook Hawkesbury Camera Club.
🌐 www.hawkesburycameraclub.com.au

Hawkesbury District Agricultural Assn

📞 4577 3591 (BH) 🌐 www.hawkesburyshow.com.au

Hawkesbury Historical Society

📍 Meets 4th Thursday of Feb, Apr & Oct at 7.30pm and 4th Saturday in Jun & Aug at 2pm.
✉️ secretaryhawkesburyhistory@gmail.com

Hawkesbury Nepean Chapter of the 1st Fleeters

📍 Meets on 2nd Saturday of each month.
👤 Pamela Hempel | 0407 660 579
🌐 www.fffhnc.com

Hawkesbury West Probus Club

📍 Meets at 10:15am on the first Monday of each month at Panthers North Richmond.
👤 Membership Officer Fay | 0414 341 253
✉️ hawkeswest.probus@gmail.com

Hawkesbury Woodcraft Cooperative Ltd

📍 9.30am to 2pm Wed. & Sat.
🌐 www.hawkesburywoodcraft.org.au
👤 Graham | 02 4576 1517

Hills District Women's Bowling Club

📍 Jenner Street, Baulkham Hills
📞 9639 2733
🌐 www.thehillswomensbowls.com.au

Hills Older Men's Network INC

📍 Meets fortnightly on the first and 3rd Mondays of the month, 10am to 12.30pm at Castle Hill. The group is aimed at retired men over the age of 55
👤 Ron | 0424 462 153 ✉️ HillsOMI1@gmail.com

Hills Shire Symphony Orchestra

📍 Welcomes new players and gig enquiries. Rehearsals Wednesday evenings.
👤 Chris | 0405 994 605
✉️ info@hillsshiresymphonyorchestra.org.au
🌐 www.hillsshiresymphonyorchestra.org.au

Hills Toastmasters

📍 Meets every 2nd Tues, 7pm. Restore Church: 47 Britannia Rd, Castle Hill. New members welcomed
👤 Terry | 0488 089 951

Hills/Toongabbie Music Club

📍 Meets 2nd and 4th Fridays 7.30pm Northmead Scouts Hall 17 Whitehaven Northmead. Beginners to professionals all welcome.
👤 Allen | 0439 831 531
✉️ allendavisguitar@gmail.com

Hornsby Kuring-gai Parkinson's Assoc'n Inc.

📍 A Support group of 30+ yrs. with 100 members from. We have members from Baulkham Hills, Castle Hill and Galston who come weekly and find it beneficial for their condition
👤 Michael Parkin | 0491009557
🌐 Parkinson's Choir, www.parkypeople.org.

Kurrajong Hand Spun Craft

📍 Come and learn a beautiful old craft at North Richmond Community Centre. Friendly group just bring yourself. Thursdays at noon.
👤 Margaret | 0403 819 165

Ladies Probus Club of Baulkham Hills

📍 Baulkham Hills Sports Club on Renown Rd, Baulkham Hills meets on the 2nd Wed of the month at 10am and welcomes enquiries about our club.
👤 Suzanne Dennis | 96390324 (home) 0412424593 (mobile)

Learning in the Hills

📍 To find out more about the huge range of courses available call 9639 7918
🌐 www.hca.org.au/learning-in-the-hills/

Lions Club of Richmond Inc.

👤 Geoff | 0412 969 651

Lions Club of Windsor Inc

👤 Pam | 0413 395 145

Macquarie Towns Garden Club

📍 The Club meets at 2 pm on the 1st Thurs of the month, in the Tebbutt Room of Hawkesbury Central Library at Windsor.
🌐 macquarietownsgardenclub.wordpress.com

National Seniors Australia (Hills Branch)

📍 Meets on the 1st Thurs of every month at Baulkham Hills Sports Club Renown Rd at 9.30am for 10am. New members welcomed.
👤 May | 0414 634 572
✉️ maybruce@bigpond.com

North Rocks View Club

📍 Meetings 2nd Thurs each month at 10.30 am. The Vikings Club, 35 Quarry Rd, Dundas Valley.
👤 Pam | 047 420 4080 or Margaret | 9872 1405

Norwest Sunrise Rotary Club

📍 We are a breakfast Club and meet every Friday morning at 7.15am. The Rotary Motto is Service Above Self. If you want to meet like-minded people pls join us.
🌐 norwestrotary.org.au

Pennant Hills Mens Probus Club

👤 John | 9487 1385

Pennant Hills Combined Probus Club

📍 Meets at Hotel Pennant Hills every 3rd Monday of the month at 10am. New members and visitors welcome.
👤 Lorene | 0429 396594

Pennant Hills VIEW Club

📍 Meets at the new time of 10.30am for 11.00am start, at Baulkham Hills Sports Club on the 2nd Tues of each month. An interesting guest speaker will be featured each month. Members can stay for lunch in the Club restaurant. On the 4th Tues of the month a social outing is organised.
👤 Margaret | 9873 2402

Pennant Hills Garden Club

📍 Meets 4th Wed at 10.15am at Pennant Hills Bowls Club. Inquire or just come along to a meeting.
✉️ pennanthillsgardenclub@gmail.com

Pitt Town Probus Club

📍 Meets at 10:00am on the 2nd Tues of the month at the Pitt Town and District Sports Club, 139 Old Pitt Town Rd. New members welcome.
👤 Denise Fairfax | 0435 447 414

Probus Club of Round Corner (Dural)

👤 Julie; PO Box 822, Round Corner 2158

Probus Club of the Hills Inc

📍 Is a mixed club and meets at the Galston Club 21-25 Arcadia Road, Galston on the 2nd Wed of each month commencing at 10.30 am. New members welcome.
👤 Ken | 02 96296459

Probus Club – Glenorie

📍 This Club meets every 4th Wed at 11.00am at Glenorie RSL Club. New members are welcome.
👤 Wendy | 9653 1022
✉️ wendyreblack@yahoo.com.au

Probus Club - Kellyville Castle Hill Mixed

📍 Meets at 10am on 2nd Thurs of each month at Baulkham Hills Sports Club, 11 Renown Road, Baulkham Hills 2153. New members welcome.
👤 Ian Sandercock | 0419 567 608
✉️ patiansandercock@bigpond.com

Probus Combined Castle Hill Club

📍 General Meetings 3rd Tuesday of the month at 10am at Cherrybrook Community Centre..
👤 Helen | 0403 751 934
✉️ enquiries@probuscastlehill.org.au

Probus Combined Kellyville Club

📍 Meet 2nd Mon of the month at 10am. At The Glenhaven Community Centre: 76 Glenhaven Road, Glenhaven. New members welcome.
👤 Veronica | 0408 025 577
Susan | 0400 039 308
✉️ ken_n_sue@hotmail.com

Probus Club of Winston Hills – Northmead Combined

📍 Meets at 10am at Toongabbie Sports Club, 12 Station St, Toongabbie, 2nd Thursday of the month. New members welcome.
✉️ winstonhillspobusclub@gmail.com

RDA (NSW) Tall Timbers Centre

📍 Equine assisted programs, Speech Pathology, Occupational Therapy and Volunteering Opportunities. Located at Gables/Box Hill

📞 9679 1246

✉️ admin@rdanswtalltimbers.org.au
🌐 www.rdanswtalltimbers.org.au

Red Cross – Castle Hill Branch

📍 Meetings 2nd Friday of the month 10.15am to 11.45am at Wesley Uniting Church, 32-34 Showground Rd, Castle Hill. New members always welcome.
📞 Donna | 0416 082 626

Richmond /Windsor VIEW Club

📍 Richmond/Windsor View Club Meets every 2nd Wednesday of the month at The Richmond Club. VIEW (voice, interest and education of woman) supports the Smith Family and Learning for Life
👤 Trish Carter | 0417 010 619

Scouts Australia – Greater Western Sydney Region

📞 9639 2488
🌐 www.greaterwestscouts.com.au

Sleep Disorders Australia – NSW

📞 02 9990 3514
🌐 www.sleepoz.org.au

Soroptimist International of Hornsby Inc.

📍 Meets on the first Wednesday evening of the month at Pennant Hills Bowling Club.
👤 Pam | 0425 229 615
✉️ sihornsbys@sisep.org

Soroptimist International The Hills

📍 Meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at Crestwood Community Centre Baulkham Hills 6.30pm for a 7pm start.
👤 Cathy | 0435 837 118
✉️ sihehills@siwp.org

The Hills Community Aid and Information Service Inc

📞 9639 8620

The Hills Learning Centre

📞 02 8850 0555
✉️ RSVPI | info@thehillslc.com.au
🌐 facebook.com/thehillsllearningcentre

The Hills Shire Garden Club

📍 Meets on 3rd Monday of the month at 1pm; Barton Hall, 178 David Road Castle Hill.
📞 9624 5034

The Hills District Pipe Band

📍 Practices at Stamford Hall, Balcombe Heights Estate, Baulkham Hills every Wednesday 7-9pm. Instagram: @hillsdistrictpipeband
👤 Suzie Whitaker
✉️ pipeband.hillsdistrict@gmail.com
🌐 www.hillsdistrictpipeband.com

The Hills Trefoil Guild

👤 Elaine | 0417 330 196

The Inner Wheel Club of Baulkham Hills

📍 Meets at St. Joseph' Conference Centre on the 4th Monday of each month at 6.00pm (dinner optional) for meeting at 7.00pm.
👤 Robyn | 9639 2742

The Sydney Hills Branch of the Association of Independent Retirees

📍 Welcome to Members and Visitors.
👤 Mal Steel | ✉️ airsidedneyhills@gmail.com

Thursday Ladies Tennis Competition in the Hills District

🌐 hillsladiestennis.org

Wanderers Bushwalking and Outdoor Club

📍 Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 8 pm at Crestwood Community Centre, Cnr Crestwood Drive and Conway St, Baulkham Hills.
👤 Ted | 0429 790 091
🌐 www.bushwalkingsnsw.org.au/wanderers

Windsor RSL Fishing Club

📍 Meets on the last Tues of the month at Windsor RSL Club at 6.30pm. New members welcome.
👤 Les Mison | 0421 821 1990

Windsor Probus Club

📍 Meet first Wednesday of the month at 10am at the Windsor RSL club 36 Argyle St. South Windsor
👤 Ann | 0414298945 or Elaine | 0428844461
✉️ windsorprobus2756@gmail.com

Winston Hills Joey Scouts

📞 9862 8482
✉️ hsara@optusnet.com.au

Wisemans Ferry Community Men's Shed Inc

📍 Meeting Tues and Sat 9am - 5pm
👤 Alan Hunt | 4566 4626 or 0428 784 425
Adrian Acheson | 0448 833 781

YMCA NSW Community Visitors Scheme

📞 9633 8209 or 0402 255 193

Zonta Club of Sydney Hills

📞 0414 641 408 | www.zontadistrict24.org

Circular Keys Chorus glistens on the foreshores of Fremantle

BY KATH WARE

Circular Keys Chorus, from Bella Vista in the Hills District, has won second place in the 2024 Sweet Adelines Australia women's barbershop competition. This year's event was held in Fremantle, Western Australia and featured 13 women's choruses and 22 quartets from around the country.

Women's barbershop singing is a particular style of a cappella (unaccompanied) singing in four parts. Sweet Adelines is one of the largest non-profit women's singing associations in the world, and the Australian region encompasses 32 choruses and over 1,100 singers.

CKC was represented in Fremantle this year by 33 members of the chorus. Their competition songs were the Lerner and Lowe classic 'Almost like being in love' and the swooniest of swoony ballads, 'I wish you love'. At the end of the competition, they delighted the audience with an exuberant performance of 'Don't rain on my parade'.

Vicki Dwyer, musical director of CKC said, 'The competition is always fierce, and our chorus sang beautifully, but we were just beaten by an amazing performance from Redland Rhapsody from Brisbane.' CKC has won many awards over the years, including first place at previous Sweet Adelines Australia contests, and has represented Australia three times at annual

international Sweet Adelines conventions held in the USA.

Vicki also competed in the quartet division as lead singer in Alouette along with three other CKC members, including Diane Jenkins, the chorus's assistant director. Diane went on to win a separate award for the most outstanding recent graduate from the Sweet Adelines directors' program. Other members also competed in their own quartets, and although they didn't win official placings, they all received their best scores so far in the national competition and were very pleased with their performances. Within a week, Alouette also competed to be Overall Quartet winners for Barbershop Harmony Australia (BHA) Eastern Region Contest, and also winners of the Open Women's Quartet.

But the only chance these intrepid volunteers got to float on Cloud 9 was on the flight back to Sydney, because they're now

straight back into preparations for upcoming local recitals, community events and end-of-year Christmas carol performances.

Circular Keys Chorus meets for rehearsals every Wednesday evening at Bella Vista. Its members come from all over Sydney and from all social demographics, including students, mothers, grandmothers, business people and retirees. The glue that bonds this dynamic group of women together is the love of beautiful music and the desire to create gorgeous harmonies for others to enjoy.

Visitors who are interested in joining the chorus are welcome to attend a rehearsal and see what members do each week to prepare for performances. Follow us online for future singing workshops and upcoming performances. Full details on who to contact and where to go are on the CKC website at: www.circularkeys.org.

Photos credit: Kirsten Graham Photography



PUZZLE

Numbers in the grid (1-26) correspond to each of the letters of the alphabet from A-Z in some order. Solve the puzzle and fill in the letters in the key provided as you find them. Three letters are provided to give you a start.

CODE WORD

11	23	22	11	14	22	23	21		23	10	3	7													
2		21		1		16		22		13		21													
3	21	9	10	7			3		9	5	9	1	7												
6		15		17			9		1		21		4												
				23	11	11	13	23	22	11	14	4	7												
10		16		13		26		7		20			1												
9	13	14	15	14	1		2	10	21	14	20	11													
21		3		22		18		11		22			12												
21	9	24	2	23	22	14	9	2	3																
2		2		26		15		23		19			23												
11	25	14	21	21		15		21	7	23	6	3													
7		7		7		21		21		2		10													
3	14	11	7		13	7	22	8	22	21	7	3													
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	S	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	R											
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	Q	25	26												

SUDOKU

Rating: ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 to 9.

		4			6		1	8
3	5	8	7		1	4		6
2	4	9		3	5	1	8	
	7			4			6	
	8	6	2	7		5	3	4
8		5	3		2	7	4	1
4	1		8			6		

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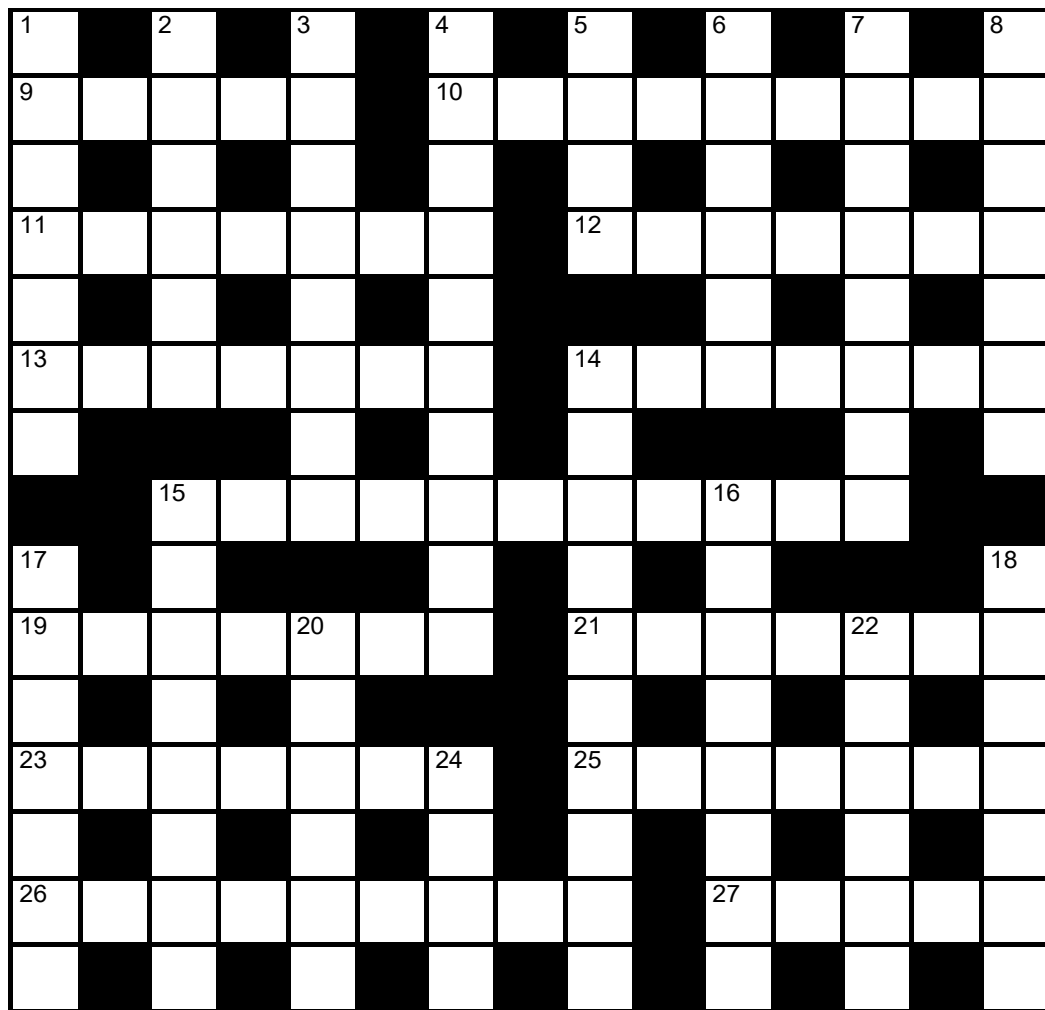


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Across

9. Like Little Boy
10. Clearing
11. Begin
12. Cooling drink
13. Disputed region between Pakistan and India
14. Waldorf salad necessity
15. Juggler banished Cal to a settlement in Nepean Bay, SA
19. Lewd
21. Affair of the heart
23. Misery
25. Iconic Volkswagens
26. Former national rugby player and heavyweight boxing champ
27. Adult insect (5)

Down

1. Hawaiian surfing site
2. Compels
3. Irregular
4. Association of sports teams
5. Pickle place
6. Additionally
7. Old Man ---, edible shrub
8. A word to the whys?
14. Worn by those over the eight?
15. Those in the know
16. Don
17. Designer of 25 Across
18. On thin ice
20. Sizing up
22. Ottoman ruler
24. Free from doubt

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O	K	J	D	S	O	I	S	Y	A	L	P	Y	H	S
G	T	I	A	R	H	T	E	B	C	A	M	A	I	B
H	C	P	N	C	A	V	H	Y	R	I	O	W	S	A
J	A	O	S	G	L	M	A	E	E	A	K	A	T	R
S	U	M	R	F	L	Q	A	W	L	I	M	H	O	D
E	P	L	L	I	I	E	Z	T	N	L	T	T	R	O
I	L	U	I	E	O	R	A	G	I	H	O	A	I	F
D	A	S	O	U	T	L	S	R	E	S	Q	H	E	A
E	Y	H	E	R	S	M	A	T	A	M	T	E	S	V
G	W	E	C	I	E	C	E	N	F	L	K	N	P	O
A	R	N	U	N	D	M	A	A	U	O	H	N	D	N
R	I	R	S	X	P	E	B	E	P	S	L	A	R	P
T	G	Y	P	E	A	U	M	O	S	T	L	I	W	H
U	H	V	S	T	E	N	N	O	S	A	I	E	O	T
T	T	T	P	O	E	T	J	I	C	T	R	O	C	L

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CORIOLANUS	HISTORIES	OTHELLO	THE TEMPEST
DRAMATIST	JULIUS CAESAR	PLAYS	TRAGEDIES

Answers from last issue

WORD SEARCH

S	E	Z	R	R	D	N	E	D	I	V	I	D	S	B
D	M	A	N	A	G	E	M	E	N	T	B	B	L	X
M	B	E	A	R	M	A	R	K	E	T	U	S	V	T
G	H	G	T	Z	R	E	H	M	A	R	G	I	N	E
O	M	E	I	A	P	E	D	H	C	D	S	I	A	V
M	M	R	D	E	R	N	M	T	R	G	R	S	N	T
O	U	A	H	E	B	R	T	L	N	T	I	A	S	
D	T	R	R	B	L	I	T	S	V	O	L	N	H	L
I	U	T	U	D	B	T	A	E	V	I	A	G	A	
T	F	L	Z	E	T	W	O	R	S	V	R	T	N	Y
Y	S	Y	T	I	U	Q	E	I	A	E	N	S	P	L
B	U	L	L	I	S	H	S	L	S	G	R	I	P	O
O	R	E	D	R	O	T	I	M	I	L	E	F	T	L
W	H	V	S	E	L	L	S	H	O	R	T	O	E	X

CODE WORD

U	N	D	E	R	C	H	A	R	G	E
F	O	N	A	T	O	I				
A	T	J	U	M	B	D	U	N		
B	R	A	V	O	P	M	L	T		
R	B	I	U	S	T	Y	L	E		
I	D	L	E	N	E	S	S			
C	E	S								
A										
T	R	A	M	P	P	X	I	C		
I	S	O	P	I	N	E	P	T		
O	A	K	S	T	O	I	C	T	E	
N	E	I	S	A	E	D				
S	W	I	T	Z	E	R	L	A	N	D

SUDOKU

6	2	8	1	7	3	9	5	4
4	1	9	5	6	8	7	3	2
3	7	5	2	9	4	8	1	6
5	8	7	4	1	9	2	6	3
2	3	6	8	5	7	1	4	9
1	9	4	6	3	2	5	8	7
8	6	2	7	4	5	3	9	1
7	4	3	9	8	1	6	2	5
9	5	1	3	2	6	4	7	8

CROSSWORD

B	R	E	A	T	H	S		W	E	L	F	A	R	E
E	T	A					N	O						
U	P	R	O	A	R		P	U	T	T	O	U	S	E
L	M	D	A	E	T	E								
F	I	R	S	T	A	I	D	R	I	P	P	L	E	
C							L	D						
J	A	M	I	E	D	W	Y	E	R		I	R	A	N
N							E	I	E	N				
V	I	D	E	A			R	E	S	P	E	C	T	I
I	M						L	D						
U	N	D	O	N	E		A	N	Y	T	H	I	N	G
K	M						L	E						
L	Y	R	E	B	I	R	D	A	C	A	C	I	A	
D	N						Z		K	P	E			
V	I	R	T	U	A	L		P	E	R	S	I	S	T

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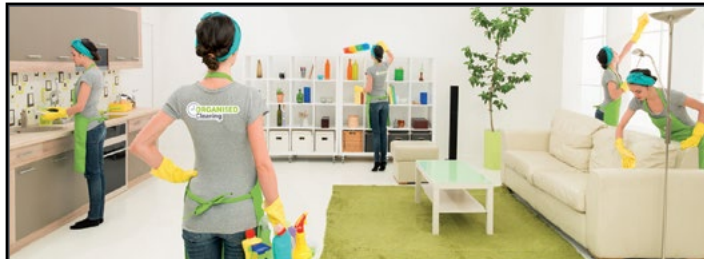


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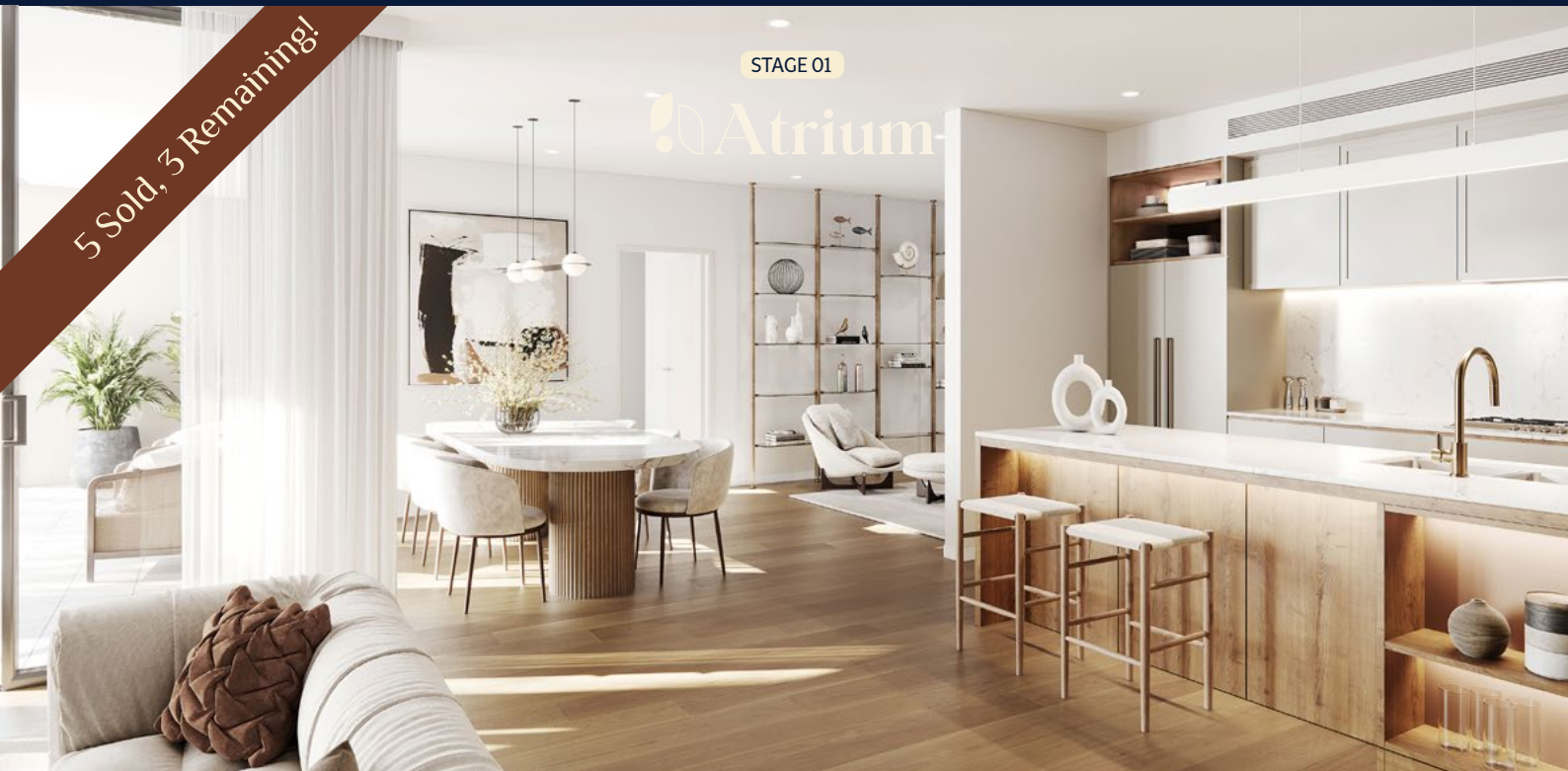
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